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APOLLONIUS RHODIUS





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INTRODUCTION

taken away if we assume with Ritschl that Eratosthenes resigned his office some years before his death, which allows us to put the birth of Apollonius at about 280, and would solve other difficulties. For instance, if the Librarians were buried within the precincts, it would account for the burial of Apollonius next to Callimachus—Eratosthenes being still alive. However that may be, it is rather arbitrary to take away the "bibliothecariate" of Apollonius, which is clearly asserted by Suidas, on account of chronological calculations which are themselves uncertain. Moreover, it is more probable that the words following "some say" in the second "life" are a remnant of the original life than a conjectural addition, because the first "life" is evidently incomplete, nothing being said about the end of Apollonius' career.

The principal event in his life, so far as we know, was the quarrel with his master Callimachus, which was most probably the cause of his condemnation at Alexandria and departure to Rhodes. This quarrel appears to have arisen from differences of literary aims and taste, but, as literary differences often do, degenerated into the bitterest personal strife. There are references to the quarrel in the writings of both. Callimachus attacks Apollonius in the

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ventional and commonplace epithets and phrases peculiar to epic poetry. Callimachus was in accordance with the spirit of the age when he proclaimed "a great book" to be "a great evil," and sought to confine poetical activity within the narrowest limits both of subject and space. Theocritus agreed with him, both in principle and practice. The chief characteristics of Alexandrianism are well summarized by Professor Robinson Ellis as follows: "Precision in form and metre, refinement in diction, a learning often degenerating into pedantry and obscurity, a resolute avoidance of everything commonplace in subject, sentiment or allusion." These traits are more prominent in Callimachus than in Apollonius, but they are certainly to be seen in the latter. He seems to have written the *Argonautica* out of bravado, to show that he *could* write an epic poem. But the influence of the age was too strong. Instead of the unity of an Epic we have merely a series of episodes, and it is the great beauty and power of one of these episodes that gives the poem its permanent value—the episode of the love of Jason and Medea. This occupies the greater part of the third book. The first and second books are taken up with the history of the voyage to Colchis, while the fourth book describes the return voyage. These portions

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the difficulty was to know what to omit, and much skill is shewn in fusing into a tolerably harmonious whole conflicting mythological and historical details. He interweaves with his narrative local legends and the founding of cities, accounts of strange customs, descriptions of works of art, such as that of Ganymede and Eros playing with knucklebones,¹ but prosaically calls himself back to the point from these pleasing digressions by such an expression as "but this would take me too far from my song." His business is the straightforward tale and nothing else. The astonishing geography of the fourth book reminds us of the interest of the age in that subject, stimulated no doubt by the researches of Eratosthenes and others.

The language is that of the conventional epic. Apollonius seems to have carefully studied Homeric glosses, and gives many examples of isolated uses, but his choice of words is by no means limited to Homer. He freely avails himself of Alexandrian words and late uses of Homeric words. Among his contemporaries Apollonius suffers from a comparison with Theocritus, who was a little his senior, but he was much admired by Roman writers who derived inspiration from the great classical writers of Greece by way of Alexandria. In fact Alexandria was a

¹ iii. 117-124.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Two editions of the *Argonautica* were published by Apollonius. Of these we have only the second. The Scholia preserve a few passages of the first edition, from which the second seems to have differed only slightly. The old opinion that our MSS. preserve any traces of the first edition has long been given up. The principal MSS. are the following:—

The Laurentian, also called the Medicean, XXXII. 9, of the early eleventh century, the excellent MS. at Florence which contains Sophocles, Aeschylus and Apollonius Rhodius. This is far the best authority for the text (here denoted by L).

The Guelpherbytanus of the thirteenth century, which closely agrees with another Laurentian, XXXII. 16, of the same date (here denoted by G and L² respectively).

There were in the early eleventh century two types of text, the first being best known to us by L, the second by G and L² and the corrections made in L. Quotations in the *Etymologicum Magnum* agree with the second type and show that this is as old as the fifth century. Besides these there are, of inferior MSS., four Vatican and five Parisian which are occasionally useful. Most of them have Scholia; the best Scholia are those of L.

The principal editions are:—

Florence, 1496, 4to. This is the *editio princeps*, by Isaacus, based on L, with Scholia, a very rare book.

Venice, 1521, 8vo. The Aldine, by Franciscus Asulanus, with Scholia.

Paris, 1541, 8vo, based on the Parisian MSS.

Geneva, 1574, 4to, by Stephanus, with Scholia.

Leyden, 1641, 2 vols., 8vo, by J. Holstin, with a Latin version.

Oxford, 1777, 2 vols., 4to, by J. Shaw, with a Latin version.

Strassburg, 1780, 8vo and 4to, by R. F. P. Bruck.

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Rome, 1791-1794, 2 vols., 4to, by Pungini, with an Italian translation.

Leipzig, 1797, 8vo, by Ch. D. Beck, with a Latin version. A second volume, to contain the Scholia and a commentary, was never published.

Leipzig, 1810-1813, 2 vols., 8vo. A second edition of Brunck by G. H. Schaefer, with the Florentine and Parisian Scholia, the latter printed for the first time.

Leipzig, 1828, 8vo, by A. Wolfaner, with the Scholia, both Florentine and Parisian.

Paris, 1841, 4to, by F. S. Lehen, with a Latin version. In the Didot series.

Leipzig, 1852, 8vo, by R. Merkel, "ad excl. MS. Laurentianum." The Teubner Text.

Leipzig, 1854, 2 vols., 8vo, by R. Merkel. The second volume contains Merkel's prolegomena and the Scholia to I., edited by H. Keil.

Oxford, 1900, 8vo, by H. C. Scanton. In the "Scriptorum Classicorum Bibliotheca Oxoniensis" series.

The text of the present edition is, with a few exceptions, that of the Oxford edition prepared by me for the Delegates of the Clarendon Press, whom I hereby thank for their permission to use it.

The English translations of Apollonius are as follows:—

By R. B. Greeno, by F. Hawkes, both 1780; by W. Preston, 1803. None of these are of value. There is a prose translation by E. P. Coleridge in the Dohn Series. The most recent and also the best is a verse translation by Mr. A. S. Way, 1901, in "The Temple Classics."

I may also mention the excellent translation in French by Prof. H. de La Ville de Mirmont of the University of Bordeaux, 1892.

Upon Alexandrian literature in general Count's *Poésie Alexandrine sous les trois premiers Ptolémées*, 1882, may be recommended. Susemihl's *Geschichte der Griechischen Literatur in der Alexandrinischen Zeit*, 2 vols., 1891, is a perfect storehouse of facts and authorities, but more adapted for reference than for general reading. Meier's *Life and Death of Jason* is a poem that in many passages singularly resembles Apollonius in its pessimistic tone and spirit.



SUMMARY OF BOOK I

INVOCATION of *Phœbus* and cause of the expedition (1-22).—Catalogue of the Argonauts (23-233).—March of the heroes to the port: farewell of *Jason* and *Alcimedæ* (234-305).—Preparations for departure and launching of *Argo*: sacrifice to *Apollo*: prediction of *Idmon* (306-447).—The festival, violence of *Idas*, song of *Orpheus* and departure (448-558).—Voyage along the coast of *Thessaly* and across to *Lemnos* (559-608).—Recent history of *Lemnos* and stay of the Argonauts there: farewell of *Jason* and *Hypsipyle* (609-909).—Voyage from *Lemnos* by *Samothrace* to the *Propontis*: reception by the *Doliones* of *Cyzicus* (910-988).—Fight against the Giants: departure and return of the Argonauts to *Cyzicus*: sacrifice to *Ilheus* on Mt. *Dindymon* (989-1152).—Arrival among the *Mysians*: rape of *Hylas*, which is announced to *Hercules* (1153-1260).—While *Hercules* and *Polyphemus* search for *Hylas* they are left behind (1261-1328).—The sale of *Hercules* and *Polyphemus*: arrival of *Argo* among the *Hebræans* (1329-1363).

ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΙΟΥ ΡΟΔΙΟΥ ΑΡΓΟΝΑΥΤΙΚΩΝ

Α

Ἀρχόμενος στέ, Φοῖβε, παλαυγενέων κλέα φωτῶν
μνησσομαι, οἱ Πόντοιο κατὰ στόμα καὶ διὰ πέτρας
Κυανέας βασιλῆος ἐφημοσύνῃ Πελίας
χρῦσειον μετὰ κῶας ἐύζυγον ἤλασαν Ἀργῶ.

Τοίην γὰρ Πελλίης φάτιν ἔκλυεν, ὥς μιν ὑπίσσω
μοῖρα μένει στυγερή, τοῦδ' ἄνέρος, ὅντιν' ἴδοιτο
δημόθεν οἰοπέδιλον, ὑπ' ἐνεσίῃσι δαμῆναι.
δηρὸν δ' οὐ μετέπειτ' ἔτεθ' ἑκατὰ βᾶξιν Ἴήσων
χειμερίοιο ρέεθρα κιῶν διὰ πρῶσιν Ἀναύρου
ἄλλο μὲν ἐξεσάωσεν ὑπ' ἱλῦος, ἄλλο δ' ἔνερθεν
κύλλιπεν αἰθι πέδιλον ἐνισχύμενον προχοῇσιν. 11)
ἴκετο δ' ἐς Πελίην αὐτοσχεδὸν ἀντιβολήσων
εἰλαπίνης, ἦν πατρὶ Ποσειδάωνι καὶ ἄλλοις
ρέξε θεοῖς. Ἥρης δὲ Πελασγίδος οὐκ ἀλέγιζεν.
αἰψα δὲ τόνγ' ἐσιδὼν ἐφράσσατο, καὶ οἱ ἔειπεν
ἔντυε ναυτιλῆς πολυκηδέης, ὅφρ' ἐνὶ πάντῳ
ἦε καὶ ἀλλοδαποῖσι μετ' ἀνδράσι νόστον ὀλέσση.

¹ μετίκειτ' ἐν τῷ Msskel: μετέπειτα τὴν Λίλιν.

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

THE ARGONAUTICA

BOOK I

BEGINNING with thee, O Phœbus, I will recount
the famous deeds of men of old, who, at the behest
of King Pelias, down through the mouth of Pontus
and between the Cymeian rocks, sped well-benched
Argo in quest of the golden fleece.

Such was the oracle that Pelias heard, that a
hateful doom awaited him—to be slain at the
prompting of the man whom he should see coming
forth from the people with but one sandal. And no
long time after, in accordance with that true report,
Jason crossed the stream of wintry Anaurus on foot,
and saved one sandal from the mire, but the other
he left in the depths held back by the flood. And
straightway he came to Pelias to share the banquet
which the king was offering to his father Poseidon
and the rest of the gods, though he paid no honour
to Pelagian Hera. Quickly the king saw him and
pondered, and devised for him the toil of a troublous
voyage, in order that on the sea or among strangers
he might lose his home-return.

Αἴσων Ἀλκιμέδην Φυλακηίδα· τῆς μιν ἀνάγει
προσύνη καὶ κῆδος ἐνικρινθῆναι ὁμίλῃ.

Οὐδὲ Φεραῖς Ἀδμητος ἐνρρήνεσσιν ἀνάσσω
μῖνον ὑπὸ σκοπῇν ὄρεος Χαλκωδονίοιο.

50

Οὐδ' Ἀλόπη μῖνον πολυλήοι Ἑρμείας
νῆες εὖ δεδαῶτε δόλους, Ἑρως καὶ Ἐχίων,
τοῖσι δ' ἐπὶ τρίτατος γνωτὸς κίε νισσομένοισιν
Λιθαλίδης· καὶ τὸν μὲν ἐπ' Ἀμφρυσσοῖο ῥοῇσιν
Μυρμιδόνοιο κούρη Φθιάς τέκεν Εὐπολέμεια·
τὴν δ' αὖτ' ἐκεγγάτην Μερετιίδος Ἀντιανείρης.

Ἦλυθε δ' ἀφνειὴν προλιπὼν Γυρτῶνα Κόρωνος
Καινεῖδος, ἐσθλὸς μὲν, ἐοῦ δ' οὐ πατὴρ ἀμείνων.
Καινὴ γὰρ ζῶν περ ἐτι κλείουσιν αἰοῖδοι
Κενταύροισιν ὀλέσθαι, ὅτε σφῆας ὁλος ἀπ' ἄλλων
ἦλ' ἀριστήων οἱ δ' ἐμπαλιν ὀρμηθέντες
οὔτε μιν ἀγκλῖναι προτέρω σθένον, οὔτε δαΐξαι·
ἀλλ' ἄρρηκτος ἄκαμπτος ἐδύσετο νεῖόθι γαίης,
θειόμενος στιβαρῇσι καταγδὴν ἐλάτῃσιν.

60

Ἦλυθε δ' αὖ Μόψος Τιταρήσιος, ὃν περὶ πάντων
Λητοῖδος ἐδίδαξε θεοπροπίας αἰώνων·
ἦδ' καὶ Εὐρυδάμας Κτιμένου πάϊς ἄγχι δὲ Λίμνης
Ξυνυίδος Κτιμένην Δολοπηίδα ναιετάασκεν.

Καὶ μὴν Ἀκτωρ νῆα Μενοίτιον ἐξ Ὀπβέντος
ᾤρσεν, ἀριστήεσσι σὺν ἀνδράσιν ὄφρα νέοιτο.

70

Ἔπειτο δ' Εὐρυτίων τε καὶ ἀλκῆεις Ἐριβώτης,
νῆες ὁ μὲν Τελέοντος, ὁ δ' Ἴρου Ἀκτορίδαο·
ἦτοι ὁ μὲν Τελέοντος ἐκλειῆς Ἐριβώτης,
Ἴρου δ' Εὐρυτίων· σὺν καὶ τρίτος ἦεν Οἰλεὺς,
ἔξοχος ἠνορέην καὶ ἐπαΐξαι μετόπισθεν
εὖ δεδαῶς δῆροισιν; ὅτε κλίνωσι φέλαγγας.

Αὐτὰρ ἀπ' Εὐβοίης Κάνθος κίε, τὸν ῥα Κάνηθος
πέμπεν Ἀβαντιάδης λεληγμένον οὐ μὲν ἐμελλεν

θεσπίεων, ἐσθλὸς μὲν ὀρινόμενον προδαῖναι
 κῦμ' ἄλως εὐρείης, ἐσθλὸς δ' ἀνέμοιο θυέλλας
 καὶ πλόον ἡέλιον τε καὶ ἄστερι τεκμήρασθαι.
 αὐτὴ μὲν Ἑριτωνὶς ἀριστήων ἐς ὄμιλον
 ὤρσεν Ἀθηναίη, μετὰ δ' ἤλυθεν ἔλδομένοισιν.
 αὐτὴ γὰρ καὶ νῆα θοὴν κάμε· σὺν δέ οἱ Ἄργος
 τεύξευ Ἀρεστορίδης κείνης ὑποθημασύνησιν.
 τῇ καὶ πασάων προφερεστάτῃ ἔπλετο νηῶν,
 δοῦσαι ὑπ' εἰρεσίῃσιν ἐπειρήσαντο θαλίης.

110

Φλίας δ' αὖτ' ἐπὶ τοῖσιν Ἀραιθυρέηθεν ἴκανεν,
 ἔνθ' ὠφειδὸς ἔναε Διωνύσοιο ἔκητε,
 πατρὸς ἑοῦ, πηγῇσιν ἐφέστιος Ἀσσιπῶιο.

Ἄργονθεν αὖ Ταλαῶς καὶ Ἀρήιος, οἷς Βίαντος,
 ἤλυθον ἰφθιμός τε Λεώδοκος, οὗς τέκε Πηγῶ
 Νηληΐς· τῇς δ' ἀμφὶ δῖην ἐμόγησε βαρεῖαν
 Αἰολίδης σταθμοῖσιν ἐν Ἰφίκλειο Μελίμπον.

120

Οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδὲ βίην κρατερόφρονος Ἡρακλῆος
 πενθόμεθ' Αἰσονίδας λιλαιομένον ἀθερίζαι.

ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ αἶε βάξιν ἀγειρομένων ἡρώων,
 νεῖον ἀπ' Ἀρκαδίας Λυρκύιον¹ Ἄργος ἀμείψας
 τὴν ὁδόν, ἧ ζῶν φέρε κάπριον, ὃς ῥ' ἐνὶ βήσσῃ
 φέρβετο Λαρπεΐης, Ἐρυμάνθιον αἶε μέγα τύφος,
 τὸν μὲν ἐνὶ πρώτῃσι Μυκηναίων ἀγορήσιν
 δεσμοῖς ἰλλόμενον μεγάλων ἀπεθήκατο νότων·
 αὐτὰς δ' ἧ ἰότητι παρέκ νόου Βύρυσσθης
 ὠρήθη· σὺν καὶ οἱ ἴλας κίον, ἐσθλὸς ὅπλων,
 πρωθήβης, ἰὼν τε φορεὶς φύλακός τε βροῖο.

130

Τῇ δ' ἐπὶ δὴ θεῖοιο κίον Δαναοῖο γενέσθη,
 Ναύπλιος, ἧ γὰρ ἔην Κλυττονίου Ναυβολίδαο·
 Ναύβολος αὖ Λέρνου· Λέρνον γε μὲν ἴδμεν ἔοντα

¹ Λυρκύιον ἐσθλόν : Λυρκύιον MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

Lernus we know was the son of Proetus son of Nauplius; and once Anymone daughter of Danaus, wedded to Poseidon, bare Nauplius, who surpassed all men in naval skill.

Idmon came last of all them that dwelt at Argos, for though he had learnt his own fate by augury, he came, that the people might not grudge him fair renown. He was not in truth the son of Abas, but Leto's son himself begot him to be numbered among the illustrious Acolids; and himself taught him the art of prophecy—to pay heed to birds and to observe the signs of the burning sacrifice.

Moreover Aetolian Leda sent from Sparta strong Polydeuces and Castor, skilled to guide swift-footed steeds; these her dearly-loved sons she bare at one birth in the house of Tyndareus; nor did she forbid their departure; for she had thoughts worthy of the bride of Zeus.

The sons of Aphareus, Lynceus and proud Idas, came from Arene, both exulting in their great strength; and Lynceus too excelled in keenest sight, if the report is true that that hero could easily direct his sight even beneath the earth.

And with them Neleian Periclymenus set out to come, eldest of all the sons of godlike Neleus who were born at Pylos; Poseidon had given him boundless strength and granted him that whatever shape he should crave during the fight, that he should take in the stress of battle.

Moreover from Arcadia came Amphidamas and Cepheus, who inhabited Tegen and the allotment of Apeidas, two sons of Aleus; and Ancaeus followed them as the third, whom his father Lycurgus sent, the

γηράσκοντ' Ἀλεὼν λίπετ' ἄμ πόλιν ὄφρα κομίζοι,
 παῖδα δ' ἔόν σφετέροισι κασσιγνήτοισιν ὅπασσεν.
 βῆ δ' ὄγε Μαιναλῆς ἄρκτου ἕρος, ἀμφάτομόν τε
 δεξιτερῇ πύλλων πέλεκυν μέγα. ἔντεα γάρ οἱ
 πατροπιάτωρ Ἀλεὼς μυχάτῃ ἐνέκρυψε καλῇ, 170
 αἱ κέν πως ἔτι καὶ τὸν ἐρητύσειε νέεσθαι.

Βῆ δὲ καὶ Λύγεις, ὃν δὴ φάτις Ἡελίοιο
 ἔμμεναι· Ἡλείοισι δ' ὄγ' ἀνδράσιν ἐμβασιλευεν,
 ὀλβρ' κυδιῶν μέγα δ' ἴστο Κολχίδα γαῖαν
 αὐτὸν τ' Αἰήτην ἰδέειν σμάντορα Κόλχων.

Ἀστέριος δὲ καὶ Ἀμφίων Ὑπερασίου υἱὸς
 Πελλήνης ἀφίκανον Ἀχαιῖδος, ἣν ποτε Πέλλης
 πατροπάτωρ ἐπόλισσεν ἐπ' ὀφρύσιν Λύγιαλοῖο.

Ταίναρον αὖτ' ἐπὶ τοῖσι λιπὼν Εὐφῆμος ἴκανεν,
 τὸν ῥα Ποσειδίωμι ποδωκῆστατον ἄλλων 180
 Εὐρώπῃ Τιτυοῖο μεγασθενέος τέκε κόυρη.
 κείσος ἀνὴρ καὶ πάντων ἐπὶ γλαυκοῖο θέεσκεν
 οὔδατος, οὐδὲ θοοὺς βύπτειν πόδας, ἀλλ' ὅσον
 ἄκροις

ἵχτεισι τεγγύμενος διερεῖ πεφόρητο κελεύθῳ.

Καὶ δ' ἄλλω δύο παῖδες Ποσειδάωνος ἴκοντο·
 ἦτοι ὁ μὲν πτολίεθρον ἀγανοῦ Μιλήτοιο
 νοσφισθεὶς Ἐργίνος, ὁ δ' Ἰμβρασίης ἔδος Ἥρης,
 Παρθενίην, Ἀγκαῖος ὑπέρβιος· ἵστορε δ' ἄμφω
 ἡμὲν ναυτιλῆς, ἡδ' ἄρεος εὐχετόωντο.

Οἰνεΐδης δ' ἐπὶ τοῖσιν ἀφορμηθεὶς Καλυδῶνος 190
 ἄλκῃς Μελέαγρος ἀνῆλυθε, Λαοκόων τε,
 Λαοκόων Οἰήης ἀδελφεός, οὐ μὲν ἴης γε
 μητέρος· ἀλλὰ ἐβῆσσαν γυνὴ τέκε· τὸν μὲν ἄρ'
 Οἰνεὺς

ἦδ' ἡ γηραλέον κοσμήτορα παῖδες ἱάλλεν·
 ὧδ' ἔτι κουρίζων περιθαρσεία δύνεν ἔμειλον

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

brother older than both. But he was left in the city to care for Aleus now growing old, while he gave his son to join his brothers. Ancaeus went clad in the skin of a Macnalian bear, and wielding in his right hand a huge two-edged battleaxe. For his armour his grandsire had hidden in the house's innermost recess, to see if he might by some means still stay his departure.

There came also Angeias, whom fame declared to be the son of Helios; he reigned over the Eleans, glorying in his wealth; and greatly he desired to behold the Colchian land and Aetes himself the ruler of the Colchians.

Asterius and Amphion, sons of Hyperastus, came from Aclurean Pellene, which once Pelles their grandsire founded on the brows of Aegialus.

After them from Thaurus came Euphemus whom, most swift-footed of men, Europe, daughter of mighty Tityos, bare to Poseidon. He was wont to skim the swell of the grey sea, and wetted not his swift feet, but just dipping the tips of his toes was borne on the watery path.

Yea, and two other sons of Poseidon came; one Erginus, who left the citadel of glorious Miletus, the other proud Ancaeus, who left Parthenie, the seat of Imbrasion Hera; both boasted their skill in sea-craft and in war.

After them from Calydon came the son of Oeneus, strong Melengrus, and Laocoon—Laocoon the brother of Oeneus, though not by the same mother, for a serving-woman bare him; him, now growing old, Oeneus sent to guard his son: thus Melengrus, still a youth, entered the bold band of heroes. No other

ἡρώων. τοῦ δ' αὖτις ὑπέρτερον ἄλλον ὤω.
 νόσφιν γ' Ἡρακλῆος, ἐπελθόμεν, εἴ κ' ἔτι μοῦνον
 αὖθι μένων λυκύβαντα μετετρέφῃ Λίτωλοῖσιν.
 καὶ μὴν οἱ μήτρος αὐτὴν ὁδόν, εὖ μὲν ἄκουσι,
 εὖ δὲ καὶ ἐν σταδίῃ δεδαημένοι ἀντιφέρεσθαι, 200
 θεστιάδης Ἰφικλος ἐφωμάρτησε κίοντι.

Σὺν δὲ Πυλαιμόντος Λέρνου πάϊς Ὀλενίοιο,
 Λέρνον ἐπὶ κλῆσιν, γενεήν γε μὲν Ἥφαιστοιο
 τοῦνεκ' ἦν πόδα σιφλός· ἀτὰρ δέμας οὐ κέ τις ἔτλη
 ἠνορέην τ' ὀνόσασθαι, ὃ καὶ μεταρίθμος ἦεν
 πᾶσιν ἀριστήεσσιν, Ἰήσοι κῦδος ἄλξων.

Ἐκ δ' ἄρα Φωκῶν κίον Ἰφίτος Ὀρνυτίδαο
 Ναυβόλου ἐκγεγαώς· ξεῖνος δέ οἱ ἔσκε πάροιθεν,
 ἦμος ἔβη Πυθιάδε βροσποπίας ἐρεσίαν
 ναυτιλίας· τόθι γάρ μιν εἰς ὑπέδεκτο δόμοισιν. 210

Ζήτης αὖ Κάλαις τε Βορήιοι νῆες ἔκοντο,
 αὖς ποτ' Ἐρεχθίδι Βορὴν τέκεν Ὀρεῖθνια
 ἐσχατιῇ Θρηκῆς δυσχειμέρου· ἐνθ' ἄρα τήνγες
 Θρηκίκοι Βορὴν ἀνερείψατο Κεκροπίνην
 Ἰλισσοῦ προπύροιθε χορῶ ἐν διευέουσιν.
 καὶ μιν ἄγων ἔκαθεν, Σαρπηδονίην δὲ πτέρην
 κλειουσιν, ποταμοῖο παρὰ ῥόον Ἐργίνοιο,
 λυγαίους ἐδάμασσε περὶ νεφέεσσι καλίνφας.
 τῶ μὲν ἐπ' ἀκροτάτοισι ποδῶν ἐκάτερθεν ἐρεμνὰς
 σείον ἀειρομένῳ πτέρυνφας, μέγα θάμβος ἰδέσθαι, 220
 χρυσείαις φολίδεσσι διαυγέας· ἀμφὶ δὲ νῶταις
 κρύατος ἐξ ὑπάτοιο καὶ αὐχένος ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα
 κυάνεαι, δονέοντο μετὰ πνοιῇσιν ἔθειραι.

Ὡδὲ μὲν οὐδ' αὐτοῖο πάϊς μενέαιεν Ἀκαστος
 ἰφθίμον Πελίαο δόμοις ἐν πατρὸς ἐῷς¹

¹ ἔπειτα G.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

had come superior to him, I ween, except Heracles, if for one year more he had tarried and been nurtured among the Aetolians. Yea, and his uncle, well skilled to fight whether with the javelin or hand to hand, Iphiclus son of Thestius, bare him company on his way.

With him came Palaemonius, son of Olenian Lernus, of Lernus by repute, but his birth was from Hephaestus; and so he was crippled in his feet, but his bodily frame and his valour no one would dare to scorn. Wherefore he was numbered among all the chiefs, winning fame for Jason.

From the Phocians came Iphitus sprung from Naubolus son of Ornytus; once he had been his host when Jason went to Pytho to ask for a response concerning his voyage; for there he welcomed him in his own halls.

Next came Zetes and Calais, sons of Boreas, whom once Oreithya, daughter of Erechtheus, bare to Boreas on the verge of wintry Thrace; thither it was that Thracian Boreas snatched her away from Cecropia as she was whirling in the dance, hard by Ilianus' stream. And, carrying her far off, to the spot that men called the rock of Sarpedon, near the river Erginus, he wrapped her in dark clouds and forced her to his will. There they were making their dusky wings quiver upon their ankles on both sides as they rose, a great wonder to behold, wings that gleamed with golden scales: and round their backs from the top of the head and neck, hither and thither, their dark tresses were being shaken by the wind.

No, nor had Aeastus son of mighty Pellas himself any will to stay behind in the palace of his brave sire,

μιμνῄζειν, Ἄργος τε θεῶς ἵποεργὸς Ἀθήνης·
ἀλλ' ἄρα καὶ τὸ μέλλον ἐυκρινεσθῆναι ὁμίλῃ.

Τόσσοι ἄρ' Αἰσονίδῃ συμμήστορες ἠγερέοντο.
τοὺς μὲν ἀριστήας Μινύας περινομιστάοντες 230
κίκλησκον μάλα πάντας, ἐπεὶ Μινύας θυγατρῶν
οἱ πλείστοι καὶ ἀριστοὶ ἀφ' αἵματος εὐχετόωντο
ἔμμεναι· ὥς δὲ καὶ αὐτὸν Ἰήσονα γείνατο μήτηρ
Ἀλκιμέδῃ, Κλυμένης Μινυηίδος ἐνοσηγαυῖα.

Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δρῶεσσιν ἐπαρτέα πάντ' ἐτέτυκτο,
ὅσσα περ ἐντύνονται ἐπαρτέες ἐνδοθὶ νῆεν,
εὖτ' ἂν ἀγῇ χρεὸς ἄνδρας ὑπὲρ ἄλλα ναυτίλλεσθαι,
δὴ τότε ἴσαν μετὰ νῆα δι' ἄστεας, ἔνθα περ ἄκται
κλείονται Παγασαὶ Μαγνήτιδες· ἀμφὶ δὲ λαῶν
πληθὺς σπερχομένων ἄμυδις θέεν· οἱ δὲ φαεινοὶ 240
ἥστέρες ὡς νεφέεσσι μετέπρεπον· ὦδε δ' ἕκαστος
ἔννεπεν εἰσαρόων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἰήσσοντας·

Ἰ Ζεῦ ἄνα, τίς Πελίῃο νότος; πόθι τόσσον ὄμιλον
ἠρώων γαίης Παναχαιίδος ἔκτοθι βάλλει;
αὐτῇμὶρ κε δόμους ὀλοῶ πυρὶ θρώσειαν
Λιόγτειω, ὅτε μὴ σφιν θεῶν δέρος ἐγγυαλίξῃ.
ἀλλ' οὐ φυκτὰ κέλευθα, πόνοσ δ' ἀπρηκτος ἰοῦσιν·

Ἰ Πῶς φάσαν ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα κατὰ πτόλιν αἱ δὲ
γυπαῖσσι
πολλὰ μίλ' ἀθανάτοισιν ἐς αἰθέρα χεῖρας ἄειρον,
εὐχόμεναι νόστοιο τέλος θυμηδὲς ὀπίσσαι.
ἀλλ' ἔ' εἰς ἐτέρην ὀλοφύρετο δακρυχέουσα· 250

Ἰ Δειλὴ Ἀλκιμέδῃ, καὶ σοὶ κακὸν ὄψέ περ ἔμπης
ἦλυνθεν, οὐδ' ἐτέλεσσας ἐπ' ἰνγλαῖῃ βιότοιο.

¹ σπερχομένων Μαγνηκῶν: σπερχομένων MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

of life. Aeson too, ill-fated man! Surely better had it been for him, if he were lying beneath the earth, enveloped in his shroud, still unconscious of bitter toils. Would that the dark wave, when the maiden Helle perished, had overwhelmed Phrixus too with the ram; but the dire portent even sent forth a human voice, that it might ²cause to Alcimede sorrows and countless pains hereafter."

Thus the women spake at the departure of the heroes. And now many thralls, men and women, were gathered together, and his mother, smitten with grief for Jason. And a bitter pang seized every woman's heart; and with them groined the father in baleful old age, lying on his bed, closely wrapped round. But the hero straightway soothed their pain, encouraging them, and bade the thralls take up his weapons for war; and they in silence with downcast looks took them up. And even as the mother had thrown her arms about her son, so she clung, weeping without stint, as a maiden all alone weeps, falling fondly on the neck of her hoary nurse, a maid who has now no others to care for her, but she drags on a weary life under a stepmother, who maltreats her continually with ever fresh insults, and as she weeps, her heart within her is bound fast with misery, nor can she sob forth all the groans that struggle for utterance; so without stint wept Alcimede straining her son in her arms, and in her yearning grief spake as follows:

"Would that on that day when, wretched woman that I am, I heard King Pelias proclaim his evil behest, I had straightway given up my life and forgotten my cares, so that thou thyself, my son, with

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

τέκνον ἐμὸν· τὸ γὰρ οἶον ἔην ἔτι λοιπὸν ἐέλδωρ
ἐκ σέθεν, ἄλλα δὲ πάντα πάλαι θρεπτήρια πέσσω.
νῦν γε μὲν ἢ τὸ πάροιθεν Ἀχαιάδεσσιν ἀγῆτῃ
ἔμῳ ὅπως κενεοῖσι λελείψομαι ἐν μεγάρουσιν,
σεῖο πόθῳ μινύθουσα δυσάμμορος, ᾗ ἔπι πολλὴν
ἀγλαίην καὶ κῦδος ἔχον πάρος, ᾗ ἔπι μούνη
μέτρην πρῶτον ἔλυσα καὶ ὕστατον. ἔξοχα γάρ
μοι

Εἰλαίθινα θεῇ πολέος ἐμέγχετο τόκοιο.

ᾗ μοι ἐμῆς ἀγῆς· τὸ μὲν οὐδ' ὅσαν, οὐδ' ἐν ἀνείρῳ 280
ὠισάμην, εἰ Φρύξος ἐμοὶ κακὸν ἔσσετ' ἀλύξας.

Ὡς ἦγε στενάχουσα κινύρετο· ταὶ δὲ γυναῖκες
ἀμφίπολοι γοήσασκον ἐπισταδόν· αὐτὰρ ὁ τήνγε
μειλαχίους ἐπέεσσι παριγορέων προσέειπεν·

Μῆ μοι ληνγαλέας ἐνιβᾶλλεο, μήτηρ, ἀνίας
ᾧδε λίην, ἐπεὶ οὐ μὲν ἐρητύσεις κακότητος
δέκρυσιν, ἀλλ' ἔτι κεν καὶ ἐπ' ἄλγεσιν ἄλγος ἄροιο.
πῆματα γάρ τ' αἰδέηλα θεοὶ θνητοῖσι νέμουσιν,
τῶν μοῖραν κατὰ θυμὸν ἀνιάχουσά περ ἔμπτῃς
τλήθῃ φέρειν· θάρσει δὲ συνημοσύνησιν Ἀθήνη, 300
ἥ δὲ θεοπροπίοισιν, ἐπεὶ μάλα δεξιὰ Φοῖβος
ἔχρη, ἀτὰρ μετέπειτά γ' ἀριστήων ἐπαρωγῇ.
ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν αὖθι μετ' ἀμφιπόλοισιν ἔκηλος
μέμνε δόμοις, μηδ' ὄρνεις ἀεικελίῃ πέλε νηί·
κεῖσε δ' ὁμαρτήσουσιν ἔται δρῶές τε κίοντι.

Ἢ, καὶ ὁ μὲν προτέρωσι δόμων ἐξῴρτο νέεσθαι.
οἶος δ' ἐκ νηοῖο θυώδεος εἶσιν Ἀπόλλων
Δῆλον ἄν' ἡγαθέην, ἥ δὲ Κλάρων, ἥ ὄγε Πυθῶ,
ἥ Λυκίην εὐρείαν, ἐπὶ Ξάνθοιο ῥοῇσιν,
τοίους ἀνὰ πληθύν δῆμον κίεν ὥρτο δ' αὐτῇ 310
κεκλομένων ἀμυδίας. τῷ δὲ ξύμβλητο γεραιῇ

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thine own hands, mightest have buried me ; for that was the only wish left me still to be fulfilled by thee, all the other rewards for thy nurture have I long enjoyed. Now I, once so admired among Achaean women, shall be left behind like a bondwoman in my empty hulla, pining away, ill-fated one, for love of thee, thee on whose account I had aforetime so much splendour and renown, my only son for whom I loosed my virgin zone first and last. For to me beyond others the goddess Eileithyia grudged abundant offspring. Alas for my folly ! Not once, not even in my dreams did I forebode this, that the flight of Phrixus would bring me woe."

Thus with moaning she wept, and her hand-maidens, standing by, lamented ; but Jason spake gently to her with comforting words :

" Do not, I pray thee, mother, store up bitter sorrows overmuch, for thou wilt not redeem me from evil by tears, but wilt still add grief to grief. For unseen are the woes that the gods mete out to mortals ; be strong to endure thy share of them though with grief in thy heart ; take courage from the promises of Athena, and from the answers of the gods (for very favourable oracles has Phoebus given), and then from the help of the chieftains. But do thou remain here, quiet among thy handmaids, and be not a bird of ill omen to the ship ; and thither my clansmen and thralls will follow me."

He spake, and started forth to leave the house. And as Apollo goes forth from some fragrant shrine to divine Delos or Claros or Pytho or to broad Lycia near the stream of Xanthus, in such beauty moved Jason through the throng of people ; and a cry arose as they shouted together. And there met him aged

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Iphias, priestess of Artemis guardian of the city, and kissed his right hand, but she had not strength to say a word, for all her eagerness, as the crowd rushed on, but she was left there by the wayside, as the old are left by the young, and he passed on and was gone afar.

Now when he had left the well-built streets of the city, he came to the bench of Pagasæ, where his comrades greeted him as they stayed together near the ship *Argo*. And he stood at the entering in, and they were gathered to meet him. And they perceived Acæstus and Argus coming from the city, and they marvelled when they saw them hasting with all speed, despite the will of Pellaæ. The one, Argus, son of Arestor, had cast round his shoulders the hide of a bull reaching to his feet, with the black hair upon it, the other, a fair mantle of double fold, which his sister Pelopeia had given him. Still Jason forebore from asking them about each point but bade all be seated for an assembly. And there, upon the folded sails and the mast as it lay on the ground, they all took their seats in order. And among them with goodwill spake Aeson's son:

"All the equipment that a ship needs—for all is in due order—lies ready for our departure. Therefore we will make no long delay in our sailing for these things' sake, when the breezes but blow fair. But, friends,—for common to all is our return to Hellas hereafter, and common to all is our path to the land of Acetes—now therefore with ungrudging heart choose the bravest to be our leader, who shall

ἄρχαμον ἡμείων,¹ αἳ κεν τὰ ἕκαστα μέλοιτο,
 νείκεα συνθεσίας τε μετὰ ξείνοισι βαλέσθαι. 340

Ὡς φάτο· πάπτηναν δὲ νέοι θρασύν Ἡρακλῆα
 ἥμενον ἐν μέσσοισιν· μὴ δὲ ἐπ' ἅντας αὐτῇ
 σημαίνειν ἐπέτελλον· ὃ δ' αὐτόθεν, ἔνθα περ ἦστο,
 δεξιτερὴν ἀνὰ χεῖρα τανύσσωτο φάνησέν τε.

Μή τις ἔμοι τόδε κῦδος ὀπαζέτω. οὐ γὰρ ἔγωγε
 πείσομαι· ὥστε καὶ ἄλλον ἀναστήσεσθαι ἐρύξω.
 αὐτός, ὅτις ξυνίγειρε, καὶ ἄρχεῦσι ὀμῖδοιο.

Ἦ ῥα μέγα φρονέων, ἐπὶ δ' ἦρεον, ὥς ἐκέλευεν
 Ἡρακλῆς· ἀνὰ δ' αὐτὰς ἀρήμος ὄρυσεν Ἰήσων
 γηθόσωνος, καὶ τοῖα λιλαιομένους ἀγόρευεν. 330

Εἰ μὲν δὴ μοι κῦδος ἐπιτρωπᾶτε μέλεισθαι,
 μηκέτ' ἐπειθ', ὥς καὶ πρὶν, ἐρητύοιτο κέλευθα.
 νῦν γε μὲν ἤδη Φοῖβον ἀρεσσόμενοι θυέεσσιν
 δαῖτ' ἐντυνόμεσθα παρασχεδύν. ὅφρα δ' ἴωσιν
 δμῶες ἔμοι σταθμῶν σημνίτορες, οἷσι μέμνηεν
 δεῦρο βόας ἀγέληθεν ἐν κρήναις ἐλίσσαι,
 τόφρα κε νῆ' ἐρύσαιμεν ἔσω ἄλός, ὅπλα δὲ πάντα
 ἐνθέμενοι ποπάλαχθε κατὰ κληῖδας ἐρετμά.
 τέως δ' αὖ καὶ βιωμὸν ἐπάκτιον Ἐμβασίῳ
 θέλομεν Ἀπόλλωνος, ὃ μοι χρεῖων ὑπέδεκτο 300
 σημανέειν δείξειν τε πόρους ἄλός, εἴ κε θυηλαῖς
 οὐδ' ἔθεν ἐξάρχωμαι ἀεθλεύων βασιλῆϊ.

Ἦ ῥα, καὶ εἰς ἔργον πρῶτος τράπεθ' οἱ δ'
 ἐπανέστην

πειθόμενοι· ἀπὸ δ' εἴματ' ἐπήτριμα νηήσαντο
 λείφ' ἐπὶ πλαταμῶνι, τὸν οὐκ ἐπέβαλλε θάλασσα
 κύμασι, χειμερὶν δὲ πάλαι ἀποέκλυσεν ἄλμη.

¹ ἡμῶν οἷο Vaticano, ἡμῶν Patisian: ἡμῶν IG.

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be careful for everything, to take upon him our quarrels and covenants with strangers."

Thus he spake; and the young heroes turned their eyes towards bold Heracles sitting in their midst, and with one shout they all enjoined upon him to be their leader; but he, from the place where he sat, stretched forth his right hand and said:

"Let no one offer this honour to me. For I will not consent, and I will forbid any other to stand up. Let the hero who brought us together, himself be the leader of the host."

Thus he spake with high thoughts, and they assented, as Heracles bade; and warlike Jason himself rose up, glad at heart, and thus addressed the eager throng:

"If ye entrust your glory to my care, no longer as before let our path be hindered. Now at last let us propitiate Phoebus with sacrifice and straightway prepare a feast. And until my thralls come, the overseers of my steading, whose care it is to choose out oxen from the herd and drive them hither, we will drag down the ship to the sea, and do ye place all the tackling within, and draw lots for the benches for rowing. Meantime let us build upon the beach an altar to Apollo-Barbusius¹ who by an oracle promised to point out and show me the paths of the sea, if by sacrifice to him I should begin my venture for King Pelias."

He spake, and was the first to turn to the work, and they stood up in obedience to him; and they heaped their garments, one upon the other, on a smooth stone, which the sea did not strike with its waves, but the stormy surge had cleansed it long before.

¹ i.e. God of embarkation.

σκαλμοῖς δ' ἀμφὶς ἐρετμὴ κατήρτυον· ἐν δέ οἱ ἱστὸν
λαίφεά τ' εὐποιήτα καὶ ἡρμαλίην ἐβύλλοντο.

Λιτὰρ ἐπεὶ τὰ ἕκαστα περιφραδέως ἀλέγυναν,
κληῖδας μὲν πρῶτα πάλῳ διεμοιρήσαντο,
ἄνδρ' ἐπιναμένω δοῖά μιν· ἐκ δ' ἄρα μέσσην
ἤρεον Ἡρακλῆι καὶ ἡρώων ἄτερ ἄλλων
Ἀγκαίῳ, Τεγέης ὅς βα πτολίεθρον ἔναιεν.
ταῖς μέσσην οἴοισιν ἀπὸ κληῖδα λίποντο
αὐτῶς, οὔτι πάλῳ· ἐπὶ δ' ἔτρεπον αἰνῆσαντες
Τίφιν ἐυσταίρης οἴηια νηὸς ἔρυσθαι.

400

Ἔνθεν δ' αὖ λίμνης ἰλὸς σχεδὸν ὀχλίζοντες
νῆεν αὐτόθι βωμὸν ἐπάκτιον Ἀπόλλωνος,
Ἄκτιον Ἐμβασίειά τ' ἐπώνυμον· ὧκα δὲ τοίγε
φειροὺς ἰζαλὲς στόρεσαν καθύπερθεν ἐλαίης.
τείως δ' αὐτ' ἀγέληθεν ἐπιπροήκαν ἄγοντες
βουκόλοι Λισωνίδαο δύο βόε. τοὺς δ' ἐρύσαντο
κουράτεροι ἐτάρων βωμοῦ σχεδόν, οἱ δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα
χέρνιβά τ' οὐλοχύτας τε παρέσχεθον. αὐτὰρ
ἴησαν

εὐχετο κεκλόμενος πατρώιον Ἀπόλλωνα·

410

Ἄκλῦθι ἄναξ, Παγασῆς τε πόλιν τ' Λισωνίδα
ναίων,

ἡμετέροιο τακῆος ἐπώνυμον, ὅς μοι ὑπέστης
Πυθοὶ χρεομένῳ ἄνυσιν καὶ πείραθ' ὁδοῖο
σημανεῖν, αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐπαίτιος ἔπλεν αἰέθλων·
αὐτὸς νῦν ἄγε νῆα σὺν ἀρτεμέεσσιν ἐταίροις
κεῖσέ τε καὶ παλίνορσαν ἐς Ἑλλάδα. σοὶ δ' ἂν
ὀπίσσω

τύσσω, ὅσσοι κεν νοσθήσομεν, ὠγλαὰ τάυρων
ἰρὰ πάλιν βωμῷ ἐπιθήσομεν· ἄλλα δὲ Πυθοῖ,
ἄλλα δ' ἐς Ὀρτυγίην ἀπερείσια δῶρα κομίσσω.
νῦν δ' ἴθι, καὶ τήνδ' ἡμιν, Ἐκηβύλε, δέξο βιηλήν,

420

ἦν τοι τῆσδ' ἐπίβαθρα χάριν προτεθείμεθα νηὸς
 πρωτίστην· λύσαιμι δ', ἄναξ, ἐπ' ἀπήμονι μοῖρῃ
 πείσματα σὴν διὰ μήτιν· ἐπιπνεύσεις δ' αἴτης
 μέλιχος, ὃ κ' ἐπὶ πόντον ἐλευσόμεθ' εὐδιόωντες·

Ἦ, καὶ ἄμ' εὐχολῇ προχύτας βάλε. τῷ δ' ἐπὶ
 βουσὶν

ζωσάσθην, Ἀγκαῖος ὑπέρβιος, Ἡρακλῆς τε.
 ἦτοι ὁ μὲν ῥοπαλῶ μέσσον κάρη ἄμφι μέτωπα
 πλῆξεν, ὁ δ' ἑβρόσας αὖθι πεσίων ἐνερείσατο γαίῃ·
 Ἀγκαῖος δ' ἐτέροιο κατὰ πλατὺν αὐχένα κύψας
 χαλκείῳ πελέκει κρατεροῦς διέκερσε τένοντας· 430
 ἤριπε δ' ἀμφοτέροισι περιρρηδῆς κεράεσσιν,
 τοὺς δ' ἔταροι σφάξαν τε θοῶς, δεῖράν τε βοείας,
 κόπτιον, δαίτρουόν τε, καὶ ἱερὰ μῆρ' ἐτίμοντο,
 καδ' δ' ἄμυδιε τάγε πάντα καλύναντες πύκα δημῷ
 καίον ἐπὶ σχίζησιν· ὁ δ' ἀκρήτους χεῖς λοιβὰς
 Δίσουνίδης, γήθει δὲ σέλας θεεύμενος Ἴδμων
 πάντοσε λαμπόμενον θυέων ἅπο τοῖό τε ληνὺν
 πορφυρέαις ἐλίκεσσιν ἐναΐσιμον αἴσσουσιν·
 αἶψα δ' ἀπηλεγέως νόον ἔκφατο Λητοῖδαν·

Ἔμιν μὲν δὴ μοῖρα θεῶν χρεῖώ τε περῆσαι 440
 ἐνθάδε κῶας ὄγοντας· ἀπειρέσιοι δ' ἐνὶ μέσση
 κείσέ τε δεῦρό τ' ἔασιν ἀνερχομένοισιν ἀεθλοί.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμὼ θανέειν στυγερῇ ὑπὸ δαίμονος αἴσῃ
 τηλύθι πον πέπρωται ἐπ' Ἀσίδος ἠπειροῖο.
 ὦδε κακοῖς δεδοῶς ἔτι καὶ πάρος οἰωνοῖσιν
 πότμον ἐμὸν πάτρηε ἐξήμιον, ὅφρ' ἐπιβαίῃν
 νηὸς, ἐνκλείῃ δὲ δόμοις ἐπιβάντι λήπῃται·

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· κοῦροι δὲ θεσπροπίης αἰόντες
 νόστῳ μὲν γήθησαν, ἄχος δ' ἔλεν Ἴδμωνος αἴσῃ.

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thee for this ship on our embarking; and grant, O King, that with a prosperous wind I may loose the hawsers, relying on thy counsel, and may the breeze blow softly with which we shall sail over the sea in fair weather."

He spake, and with his prayer cast the barley meal. And they two girded themselves to slay the steers, proud Anaeus and Heracles. The latter with his club smote one steer mid-head on the brow, and falling in a heap on the spot, it sank to the ground; and Anaeus struck the broad neck of the other with his axe of bronze, and shored through the mighty sinews; and it fell prone on both its horns. Their comrades quickly severed the victims' throats, and flayed the hides: they sundered the joints and carved the flesh, then cut out the sacred thigh bones, and covering them all together closely with fat burnt them upon cloven wood. And Aeson's son poured out pure libations, and Idmon rejoiced beholding the flame as it glenned on every side from the sacrifice, and the smoke of it mounting up with good omen in dark spiral columns; and quickly he spake outright the will of Leto's son:

"For you it is the will of heaven and destiny that ye shall return here with the fleece; but meanwhile both going and returning, countless trials await you. But it is my lot, by the hateful decree of a god, to die somewhere afar off on the mainland of Asia. Thus, though I learnt my fate from evil omens even before now, I have left my fatherland to embark on the ship, that so after my embarking fair fame may be left me in my house."

Thus he spake; and the youths hearing the divine utterance rejoiced at their return, but grief seized

ἦμος δ' ἥελιος σταθερὸν παραμείβεται ἡμαρ,
αἱ δὲ νέον σκοπέλοισιν ὑποσκιύωνται ἄρουραι,
δειδιανὸν κλίοντος ὑπὸ ζόφον ἡλείοιο,
τῆμος ἄρ' ἤδη πάντες ἐπὶ ψαμύθοισι βαθεῖαν
φυλλάδα χευάμενοι ποταμοῦ πρόπαρ αἰγιαλοῖο
κέκλιονθ' ἐξείης· παρὰ δέ σφισι μυρὶ ἔκειτο
εἶδατα, καὶ μέθυ λαρόν, ἀφυσσαμένων προχόησιν
οἰμοχόων· μετέπειτα δ' ἀμοιβαδίε ἀλλήλοισιν
μυθεύονθ', οἷά τε πολλὰ νέοι παρὰ δαιτὶ καὶ οἴνῳ
τερπνῶς ἐψιόωνται, ὅτ' ἄατος ὕβρις ἀπείη.
ἔνθ' αὖτ' Αἰσονίδης μὲν ἀμήχανος εἰν ἑοῖ αὐτῷ
πορφύρεσκεν ἕκαστα κατηφιόωντι εὐοικῶς.

τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑποφρασθεὶς μεγίλην ὀπί νεέκεσεν Ἴδας·
Ἄλσονίδη, τίνα τήνδε μετὰ φρεσὶ μῆτιν ἐλίσ-
σεις;

αὐδὰ ἐνὶ μέσσοισι τεὸν νόον, ἧέ σε δαμνᾷ
τάρβος ἐπιπλόμενον, τό τ' ἀνάγκιδας ἄνδρας
ἀτύζει;

ἴστω νῦν δόρυ θοῦρον, ὅττω περιώσιον ἄλλων
κῦδος ἐνὶ πτολέμοισιν ἀείρομαι, οὐδέ μ' ὀφέλλει
Ζεὺς τόσων, ὅσσάτιόν περ ἔμην δόρυ, μή νύ τι πῆμα
λόλγιμον ἔσσεσθαι, μῆδ' ἀκράαντον ἄεθλον
ἴδω ἐσπομένονα, καὶ εἰ θεὸς ἀντιόρωτο.
τοῖάν μ' Ἀρήνηθεν ἀσσοσητῆρα κομίζεις.

Ἦ, καὶ ἐπισχόμενος πλείον δέπας ἀμφοτέρησιν
πῖνε χαλίκρητον λαρόν μέθυ· δείκετο δ' οἶνῳ
χεῖλεα, κυνέαι τε γενειάδες· οἱ δ' ὁμώδησαν
πάντες ὁμῶς, Ἰδμεων δὲ καὶ ἀμφαδίην ἀγόρευσεν·
Ἄδαιμόνιε, φρονέεις ὀλοφύοια καὶ πάρος αὐτῷ.
ἧέ τοι εἰς αἶτην ζωρὸν μέθυ θαρσαλέον κῆρ
οἰδάνει ἐν στήθεσσι, θεοὺς δ' ἀνέγκην ἀτίζειν;

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them for the fate of Idmon. Now at the hour when the sun passes his noon-tide halt and the ploughlands are just being shadowed by the rocks, as the sun slopes towards the evening dusk, at that hour all the heroes spread leaves thickly upon the sand and lay down in rows in front of the hoary surf-line; and near them were spread vast stores of viands and sweet wine, which the cupbearers had drawn off in pitchers; afterwards they told tales one to another in turn, such as youths often tell when at the feast and the bowl they take delightful pastime, and insatiable insolence is far away. But here the son of Aeson, all helpless, was brooding over each event in his mind, like one oppressed with thought. And Idas noted him and assailed him with loud voice :

"Son of Aeson, what is this plan thou art turning over in mind. Speak out thy thought in the midst. Does fear come on and master thee, fear, that confounds cowards? Be witness now my impetuous spear, wherewith I win renown beyond all others (nor does Zeus aid me so much as my own spear), that no woe will be fatal, no venture will be unachieved, while Idas follows, even though a god should oppose thee. Such a helpmeet am I that thou bringest from Arene."

He spoke, and holding a brimming goblet in both hands drank off the unmixed sweet wine; and his lips and dark cheeks were drenched with it; and all the heroes clamoured together and Idmon spoke out openly :

"Vain wretch, thou art devising destruction for thyself before the time. Does the pure wine cause thy bold heart to swell in thy breast to thy ruin, and has it set thee on to dishonour the gods? Other

οἱ δ' ὥστ' ἤθεοι Φαίβοιο χορὸν ἢ ἐνὶ Πυθοῖ
 ἢ πον ἐν Ὀρτυγίῃ, ἢ ἐφ' ὕδασι· Ἰσμηνοῖο
 στησήμενοι, φόρμιγγος ὑπαὶ περὶ βωμὸν ὁμαρτῇ
 ἐμμελῶς κραιπνοῖσι πέδον ῥήσσωσι πόδεσσιν·
 ὥς οἱ ὑπ' Ὀρφῆος κιθάρῃ πέπληγον ἑρετμοῖς
 πύοντον λήβροιο ὕδωρ, ἐπὶ δὲ ῥόθια κλύζοντο·
 ὑφρῶ δ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα κελαινὴ κήκειν ἄλμη
 δεινὸν μαρμύρουσα ἐρισθενέων μένει ἀνδρῶν.
 στρίπτε δ' ὑπ' ἡελίῳ φλογὶ εἰκέλα νηὸς ἰούσης
 τεύχεα· μακραί δ' αἶεν ἐλευκαίνοντο κέλευθοι,
 ἀτραπὸς ὧς χλοεροῖο διειδομένη πεδίῳ.
 πάντες δ' οὐρανύθεν λεῦσσαν θεοὶ ἡματι κείνῃ
 νῆα καὶ ἡμιθέων ἀνδρῶν μένος, οἳ τότ' ἄριστοι
 πύοντον ἐπιπλώεσκον ἐπ' ἱεροτάτῃσι δὲ νύμφαι·
 Πηληϊίδες κορυφῇσιν ἐθ' ἄμβισιν εἰσορόωσαι
 ἔργον Ἀθηναίης Ἰωνιδῶς· ἡδὲ καὶ αὐτοὺς
 ἦρωας χεῖρεσσιν ἐπικραδίοντας ἑρετμὰ.
 αὐτὰρ ὅγ' ἐξ ὑπύτου ὄρεος κίεν ἄγχι θαλάσσης
 Χείρων Φιλλυρίδης, πολὺν δ' ἐπὶ κύματος ἄγῃ
 τέγγε πύδας, καὶ πολλὰ βαρεῖν χειρὶ κελεύων
 νόστον ἐπενφῆμῃσεν ἀκηδέα νισσομένοισιν.
 σὺν καὶ οἱ παράκοιτις ἐπωλήιον φορέουσα
 Πηλεΐδην Ἀχιλῆα, φίλῳ δειδίσκετο πατρί.

Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ λιμένος περιηγέα κάλλιπον ἱκτὴν
 φραδομοσύνη μῆτι τε δαΐφρονος Ἀγκιάδαο
 Ἰάφους, ὅς ῥ' ἐνὶ χερσὶν εὐξοα τεχνήντως
 πηδῶνι ἁμφιέπεσκέ, ὕφρ' ἔμπεδον ἐξιθύνει,
 δὴ ῥα τότε μέγαν ἱστὸν ἐνεστήσαντο μεσδῶμῃ,
 δῆσαν δὲ προτόνοισι, ταυνοσύμενοι ἱκίτερθεν,

¹ *Ἰωνιδῶς* *schol.*, I. by correction: *Τριτωνίδας* G, *fluv.* Parisian.

καὶ δ' αὐτοῦ λίνα χεῦαν, ἐπ' ἡλακάτην ἐρύσαντες.
 ἐν δὲ λαγὺς πέσεν οὖρος· ἐπ' ἰκριόφιν δὲ κάλῳας
 ξεστῆσιν περόνῃσι διακριδὼν ἀμφιβαλόντες
 Τισαίην εὐκηλοὶ ὑπὲρ βολιχὴν θεὸν ἄκρην.
 τοῖσι δὲ φορμίζων εὐθήμερονι μέλπευ ἀοιδῇ
 Οἰάγροιο πῖνις νηοσσόον εὐπατέρειαν

370

Ἄρτεμιν, ἣ κείνας σκοπιῆς ἄλδς ἀμφιέπεσκεν
 ῥυομένη καὶ γαῖαν Ἰωλκίδα· τοὶ δὲ βαθείης
 ἰχθύες ἡέσσοντες ὑπερθ' ἡλός, ἄμμυγα παύροις
 ἄπλετοι, ὑγρὰ κέλευθα διασκαίροντες ἔπαιοντο,
 ὥς δ' ὅπῳτ' ἀγραῦλοιο κατ' ἰχθυα σημαντήρος
 μυρία μῆλ' ἐφέπονται ἄδην κεκορημένα ποίης
 εἰς αὖλιν, ὁ δὲ τ' εἰσι πάρος σύρυγγι λυγείῃ
 καλὰ μελιζόμενος νόμιον μέλος· ὥς ἄρα τοίγε
 ὠμάρτευν· τὴν δ' αἰὲν ἐπασσύτερος φέρει οὖρος.

Λύτικα δ' ἤρεψεν πολυλήϊος αἶλα Πελασγῶν
 δύετο, Πηληϊάδας δὲ παρεξήμειβον ἐρίπνας
 αἰὲν ἐπιπροθέοντες· ἔδινε δὲ Σηπιάς ἄκρην,
 φαίνεται δ' εἰναλὴν Σκίαθος, φαίνοντο δ' ἄπωθεν
 Πειρεσιαὶ Μάγνησά θ' ὑπεύδιος ἠπείροιο
 ἁκτὴ καὶ τύμβος Δολοπήϊος· εὐθ' ἄρα τοίγε
 ἐσπέραιοι ἀνέμοιο παλιμπνοίησιν ἐκελσαν,
 καὶ μιν κυδαίροντες ὑπὸ κνέφας ἔντομα μῆλων
 κεῖαν, ὀρισομένης ἄλδς οἴῳματι διπλόα δ' ἁκταῖς
 ἡματ' ἐλινύεσκον· ἀτὰρ τριτάτῳ προέηκαν
 νῆα, ταυυσσίμενοι περιώσιον ἰνφόθι λαΐφος.

500

τὴν δ' ἁκτὴν Ἀφέτας Ἀργοῦς ἔτι κικλήσκουσιν.
 Ἐνθεν δὲ προτέρωσσε παρεξέθεον Μελίβοιαν,

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taut on each side, and from it they let down the sail when they had hauled it to the top-mast. And a breeze came down piping shrilly; and upon the deck they fastened the ropes separately round the well-polished pins, and ran quietly past the long Tisacan headland. And for them the son of Oeagrus touched his lyre and sang in rhythmical song of Artemis, saviour of ships, child of a glorious sire, who lath in her keeping those peaks by the sea, and the land of Iolcos; and the fishes came darting through the deep sea, great mixed with small, and followed gambolling along the watery paths. And as when in the track of the shepherd, their master, countless sheep follow to the fold that have fed to the full of grass, and he goes before gaily piping a shepherd's strain on his shrill reed; so these fishes followed; and a chasing breeze ever bore the ship onward.

And straightway the misty land of the Pelasgians, rich in cornfields, sank out of sight, and ever speeding onward they passed the rugged sides of Pelion; and the Sopian headland sank away, and Sciathus appeared in the sea, and far off appeared Piresiae and the calm shore of Magnesia on the mainland and the tomb of Dolops; here then in the evening, as the wind blew against them, they put to land, and paying honour to him at nightfall burnt sheep as victims, while the sea was tossed by the swell: and for two days they lingered on the shore, but on the third day they put forth the ship, spreading on high the broad sail. And even now men call that beach Aphetæ¹ of Argo.

Thence going forward they ran past Meliboea,

¹ i.e. The Starling.

ἀκτὴν τ' αἰγμάλον τε δυσήνεμον ἐκπερόωντες.¹
 ἤωθεν δ' Ὀμόλην αὐτοσχεδὸν εἰσορόωντες
 πόντῳ κεκλιμένην παρεμέτρεον· οὐδ' ἔτι δηρὸν
 μέλλον ὑπὲρ ποταμοῖο βαλεῖν Ἀμύροιο ῥέεθρα.
 κείμεν δ' Ἐὐρυμένας τε πολυκλύστους τε φάραγγας
 Ὀσσης Οὐλύμποιο τ' ἐσέδρακον· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα
 κλίτῃ Παλλήναια, Καναστραίην ὑπὲρ ἄκρην,
 ἤνυσαν ἐνύχιοι πνοῇ ἄνεμοιο θέοντες.
 ἦρι δὲ νισσομένοισιν Ἄθω ἰνέτελλε κοιλίῃ
 Θρηκίῃ, ἣ τόσσον ἀπόπροθι Λῆμνον εἴουσιν,
 ὅσσον ἐς ἑνδιὼν κεν εὐστολὰς ὀλκὰς ἀνύσσαι,
 ἀκροτάτῃ κορυφῇ σκυῖει, καὶ ἐσέχρῃ Μυρίλης.
 τοῖσιν δ' αὐτῆμαρ μὲν ἄεν καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας οὐρα
 πύγχνυ μάλ' ἀκραίης, τετύμνστο δὲ λαίφρα σῆος.
 αὐτὰρ αἶψ' ἡελίοιο βολαῖς ἀνέμοιο λιπόντος
 εἰρεσίῃ κραναίῃ Σιντηίδα Λῆμνον ἵκοντο.

600

Ἐνθ' ἄμυδις πᾶς δῆμος ὑπερβασίῃσι γυναικῶν
 νηλειῶς δέδμητο παροιχομένῳ Λυκάβαρτι.
 δὴ γὰρ κουριδίας μὲν ἀπηνῆναντο γυναῖκας
 ἀνέρες ἐχθήραντες, ἔχον δ' ἐπὶ ληιάδεσσιν
 τροχὸν ἔρον, ἃς αὐτοὶ ἀγίνεον ἀντιπέρηθεν
 Θρηκίην δροῦντες· ἐπεὶ χόλος αἰνὸς ὤπαζεν
 Κύπριδος, οὐνεκά μιν γεράων ἐπὶ δηρὸν ἄτισσαν.
 ὦ μέλειαι, ζήλοιο τ' ἐπισμυγερώς ἀκόρητοι.
 οὐκ οἶον σὺν τῆσιν ἐοῖς ἔρραισαν ἱκοίτας
 ἄρφ' εὐνῇ, πᾶν δ' ἄρσεν ὁμοῦ γένος, ὥς κεν ὀπίσσω
 μήτινα λευγαλέοιο φόνου τίσειεν ἀμοιβήν.
 οἷη δ' ἐκ πασέων γεραροῦ περιφείσατο πατρός
 Ὑψιπύλεια Θόαντος, ὃ δὴ κατὰ δῆμον ἄνασσειν.

610

620

¹ ἐκπερόωντες Mofaeko: εἰσορόωντες MSS.

λίρνακι δ' ἐν κοίλῃ μιν ὑπερθ' ἄλως ἦκε φέρεσθαι,
αἶ κε φύγῃ· καὶ τὸν μὲν ἐς Οἰνοίην ἐρύσαντο
πρόσθεν, ἀτὰρ Σίκινόν γε μεθύστερον ἀνδρηθεῖσαν
νῆσαν, ἐπακτῆρες, Σικίνον ἄπο, τὴν ῥα Θόαντι
νηϊὰς Οἰνοίῃ νύμφῃ τέκεν εἰνηθεῖσα.

τῇσι δὲ βουκόλιαί τε βοῶν χάλκεα τε δύνειν
τεύχεα, πυροφόρους τε διατμήξασθαι ἀρούρας
ῥήτερον πάσῃσιν Ἀθηναίης πέλεν ἔργων,
οἷς αἰεὶ τὸ πάροιθεν ὁμίλεον. ἀλλὰ γὰρ ἔμπτῃς 630
ἢ θαμὰ δὴ πάπταιων ἐπὶ πλατὺν ὄμμασι πόντον
δείματι λευγαλέῳ, ὅποτε Θρήικες ἴασιν.
τῷ καὶ ἔτ' ἐγγύθι νῆσου ἐρεσσομένην ἴδον Ἀργῶ,
αὐτίκα πασσυδίῃ πυλέων ἔκτοσθε Μυρίνης
δῆμα τεύχεα δῦσαι ἐς αἰγιαλὸν προχέοντο,
Θυιάσιν ὁμοβόροις ἰκελαι· φὰν γὰρ πον ἰκάνειν
Θρήικας· ἡ δ' ἄμα τῇσι Θοαντιάς Ὑψιπύλεια
δύν' ἐνὶ τεύχεσι πατρός· ἡμηχανίῃ δ' ἐχέοντο
ἄφθογγοι· τοῖόν σφιν ἐπὶ δέος ἦναιετο.

Τέως δ' αὖτ' ἐκ νηὸς ἀριστῆες προέηκαν 640
Λιθαλίδην κήρυκα βοῶν, τῷπέρ τε μέλεσθαι
ἀγγελίας καὶ σκῆπτρον ἐπέτρεπον Ἑρμείας,
σφωιτέροισι τοκῆος, ὃ οἱ μνήστιν πόρε πάντων
ἄφθιτον· οὐδ' ἔτι νῦν περ ἀπαιχομένου Ἀχέροντος
ζῆναις ἀπροφάτους ψυχὴν ἐπιδέδρομε λήθῃ
ἀλλ' ἦγ' ἔμπεδον αἶν ἀμειβομένη μεμόρηται,
ἄλλοθ' ὑποχθονίοις ἐναρίθμοι, ἄλλοθ' ἐς αἰγὰς
ἠελίου ζῶσι μετ' ἀνδράσιν· ἀλλὰ τί μύθους
Λιθαλίδεω χρειῶ με διηνεκέως ἀγορεύειν;
ὅς ῥα τόθ' Ὑψιπύλῃν μελίζατο δέχθαι ἰόντας 650

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Thoas, who was king over the people; and she sent him in a hollow chest to drift over the sea, if haply he should escape. And fishermen dragged him to shore at the island of Oenoe, formerly Oenoe, but afterwards called Sicinus from Sicinus, whom the water-nymph Oenoe bore to Thoas. Now for all the women to tend kine, to don armour of bronze, and to cleave with the plough-share the wheat-bearing fields, was easier than the works of Athenâ, with which they were busied aforetime. Yet for all that did they often gaze over the broad sea, in grievous fear against the Thracians' coming. So when they saw Argo being rowed near the island, straightway crowding in multitude from the gates of Myrine and clad in their harness of war, they poured forth to the beach like ravening Thyiades; for they deemed that the Thracians were come; and with them Hypsipyle, daughter of Thoas, donned her father's harness. And they streamed down speechless with dismay; such fear was wafted about them.

Meantime from the ship the chiefs had sent Aethalides the swift herald, to whose care they entrusted their messages and the wand of Hermes, his sire, who had granted him a memory of all things, that never grew dim; and not even now, though he has entered the unspeakable whirlpools of Acheron, has forgetfulness swept over his soul, but its fixed doom is to be ever changing its abode; at one time to be numbered among the dwellers beneath the earth, at another to be in the light of the sun among living men. But why need I tell at length tales of Aethalides? He at that time persuaded Hypsipyle to receive the new-comers as the

ἡματος ἀνομένοιο διὰ κνέφας· οὐδὲ μὲν ἦοι
πείσματα νηὸς ἔλυσαν ἐπὶ πνοῇ βορέας.

Λημνιάδες δὲ γυναῖκες ἀνὰ πτόλιν ἴζον ἰούσαι
εἰς ἀγορὴν· αὐτὴ γὰρ ἐπέφραδεν Ἑψικυλεια.
καὶ ῥ' ὅτε δὴ μῖλα πᾶσαι ὁμιλαδὸν ἡγερέθοντο,
αὐτίκ' ἄρ' ἦγ' ἐνὶ τῇσιν ἐποτρύνουσ' ἀγύρευεν·

ἴΩ φίλοι, εἰ δ' ἄγε δὴ μενοεικέα δῶρα πύρρῳ
ἀνδρίσιν, οἷά τ' ἔοικεν ἄγειν ἐπὶ νηὸς ἔχοντας,
ἦμα, καὶ μέθυ λαρόν, ἴν' ἔμπεδον ἔκτοθι πύργων
μύμονεν, μηδ' ἄμμε κατὰ χρεῖός μεθέποντες
ἀτρεκέως γνῶωσι, κακὴ δ' ἐπὶ πολλὸν ἔκηται
βίβλις· ἐπεὶ μέγα ἔργον ἐρέξαμεν, οὐδέ τι πάμπαν
θυμηδὲς καὶ τοῖσι τόγ' ἔσσεται, εἰ κε δαείην.
ἡμετέρη μὲν νῦν τοίῃ παρενήνοθε μῆτις·
ὁμέων δ' εἴ τις ἄρειον ἔπος μητίσεται ἄλλη,
ἐγρέσθω· τοῦ γάρ τε καὶ εἵνεκα δεῦρο κῆλισσα.'

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ θῶκον ἐφίζανε πατρὲς ἐοῖο
λίμενον· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα φίλῃ τροφὸς ὄρτο Πολυξῶ,
γῆραι δὴ ῥικναῖσιν ἐπισκάζουσα πόδεσσιν,
βιότρω ἐρειδομένη, παρὶ δὲ μενέαιν' ἀγορεύσαι.
τῇ καὶ παρθενικαὶ πίσυρες σχεδὸν ἰδριόωντο
ἄδμητες λευκῆσιν ἐπιχραιοῦνσαι¹ ἐθειραῖς.
στῇ δ' ἄρ' ἐνὶ μέσσῃ ἀγορῇ, ἀνὰ δ' ἔσχεθε δειρὴν
ἦκα μόλις κυφοῖο μεταφρένου, ὧδέ τ' ἔειπεν·

Ἄωρα μὲν, ὥς αὐτῇ περ ἐφανεύανει Ἑψικυλεῖη,
πέμπωμεν ξείνοισιν, ἐπεὶ καὶ ἄρειον ὀπίσσαι.
ἔμμε γε μὴν τίς μῆτις ἐπαύρεσθαι βιάτοιο
αἶ κεν ἐπιβρίσῃ ἱερὴν στρατὸς, ἢ τίς ἄλλος
δυσμενέων, ἅτε πολλὰ μετ' ἀνθρώποισι πέλονται;
ὥς καὶ νῦν ὃδ' ὁμιλος ἀνωίστως ἐφικάνει.

¹ ἐπιχραιοῦνσαι Pappus and recent editors.

εἰ δὲ τὸ μὲν μακίρων τις ἀποτρέποι, ἄλλα δ'
ὀπίσσω

μυρία δημοτῆτος ὑπέρτερα πῆματα μένει,
εὖτ' ἂν δὴ γεραραὶ μὲν ἀποφθινύθωσι γυναῖκες,
κουρότεραι δ' ἄγονοι στυγερὸν ποτὶ γῆρας ἴκησθε.
πῶς τῆμος βώσεσθε δυσάμμοροι; ἤε βαθείαις
αὐτάματοι βῆες ὕμνων ἐνὶ ξενχθέντες ἀρούραις
γείστομον κνιοῖο διειρύσσουσιν ἄροτρον,
καὶ πρόκα τελλομένου ἔτεος στάχυν ἀμήσουται;
ἢ μὲν ἐγὼν, εἰ καὶ μετὰ τὰ νῦν ἔτι πεφρίκασιν
Κῆρες, ἐπερχόμενον ποῦ δίομαι εἰς ἔτος ἤδη
γαῖαν ἐφέσσεσθαι, κτερέων ἀπὸ μοῖραν ἐλαῦσαν
αὐτῶς, ἢ θέμις ἐστί, πάρος κακότητα πελάσσαι.
ὀπλοτέρησι δὲ πᾶγχυ τάδε φράζεσθαι ἄνωγα.
νῦν γὰρ δὴ παρὰ ποσσὶν ἐπήβολός ἐστι' ἄλωρή,
εἰ κεν ἐπιτρέψῃτε δόμους καὶ ληῖδα πᾶσαν
ὑμετέρην ξείνοισι καὶ ἀγλαὸν ἄστυ μέλεσθαι.'

᾿Ως ἔφατ'· ἐν δ' ἄγορῇ πλήτο θρόνον. εὖαδε γάρ
σφιν

μῦθος. ἅτῃρ μετὰ τήνγῃ παρσχεδὸν αὐτῖς ἀνῶρτο
᾿Υψιπύλη, καὶ γαῖον ὑποβλήδην ἔπος ηὔδα·

Ἐἰ μὲν δὴ πάσῃσιν ἐφασκύνει ἤδε μενοιγῆ,
ἤδη κεν μετὰ νῆα καὶ ἄγγελον ὀτρύναιμι.'

Ἡ ῥα, καὶ Ἴφινόην μετεφώνεεν ἄσσαν ἐοῦσαν·

᾿Ορσο μοι, Ἴφινόη, τοῦδ' ἀνέρος ἀντιώσωσα,
ἡμέτερόνδε μολεῖν, ὅστις στόλου ἡγεμονεύει,
δῶρα τί τί δῆμοιο ἔπος θυμῆρες ἐνίσπω·
καὶ δ' αὐτοὺς γαίης τε καὶ ἄστεος, αἴ κ' ἐθέλωσιν,
κέκλεο θαρσαλέως ἐπιβυινέμεν εὐμενέοντάς·

Ἡ, καὶ ἔλυσ' ἀγορήν, μετὰ δ' εἰς ἐὸν ὦρτο
κῆσθαι.

Ὡς δὲ καὶ Ἴφινόη Μινύος ἴκεθ'. οἱ δ' ἐρέεινον,

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

blessed gods should turn this aside yet countless other woes, worse than battle, remain behind, when the aged women die off and ye younger ones, without children, reach hateful old age. How then will ye live, hapless ones? Will your oxen of their own accord yoke themselves for the deep ploughlands and draw the earth-cleaving share through the fallow, and forthwith, as the year comes round, reap the harvest? Assuredly, though the fates till now have shunned me in horror, I deem that in the coming year I shall put on the garment of earth, when I have received my meed of burial even so as is right, before the evil days draw near. But I bid you who are younger give good heed to this. For now at your feet a way of escape lies open, if ye trust to the strangers the care of your homes and all your stock and your glorious city."

Thus she spake, and the assembly was filled with clamour. For the word pleased them. And after her straightway Hypsipyle rose up again, and thus spake in reply.

"If this purpose please you all, now will I even send a messenger to the ship."

She spake and addressed Iphinoe close at hand: "Go, Iphinoe, and beg yonder man, whoever it is that leads this array, to come to our land that I may tell him a word that pleases the heart of my people, and bid the men themselves, if they wish, boldly enter the land and the city with friendly intent."

She spake, and dismissed the assembly, and thereafter started to return home. And so Iphinoe came to the Minyae; and they asked with what intent

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

εὔτε Θόας ἀστοίοισι πατὴρ ἐμὸς ἐμβασιλευεν,
 τηνίκα Θρηκίην, οὔτ' ἀντία ναιετάουσιν,
 800 δῆμον ἀπορνύμενοι λαοὶ πέρθεσκον ἐπαύλους
 ἐκ νηῶν, αὐτῆσι δ' ἀπείρουα ληίδα κούραις
 δεῦρ' ἄγον· οὐλομένης δὲ θεᾶς πορσύνετο μῆτις
 Κύπριδος, ἣτε σφιν θυμοφθόρον ἐμβαλεν ἄτην.
 δὴ γὰρ κουριδίας μὲν ἀπέστνγον, ἐκ δὲ μελάθρων,
 ἢ ματὴν εἴξαντες, ἀπεσσεύοντο γυναῖκας
 αὐτὰρ λημίδεσσι δορικτήταις παρίανον,
 σχέτλιοι. ἦ μὲν δηρὸν ἐτέτλαμεν, εἰ κέ ποτ' αὐτὶς
 ὄψ' μεταστρέψῃσι νόον· τὸ δὲ διπλόον αἰεὶ
 πῆμα κακὸν προύβαινε. ἀτιμάζοντο δὲ τέκνα
 810 γνήσι' ἐνὶ μεγάροις, σκοτίῃ δ' ἀνέτελλε γενέθλι.
 αὐτῶς δ' ὑδμήτες κούραι,¹ χῆραί τ' ἐπὶ τῆσιν
 μητέρες ἅμ' πτολίεθρον ἄτημελές ἰλάληντο.
 οὐδὲ πατὴρ ὀλίγον περ εἰς ἀλέγιζε θυγατρός,
 εἰ καὶ ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσι δαΐζομένην ὀρόφωτο
 μητρυῖς ὑπὸ χερσὶν ἀτασθάλου· οὐδ' ἀπὸ μητρὸς
 λώβην, ὥς τὸ πάροιθεν, αἰκέα παῖδες ἄμνον·
 οὐδὲ κασιγνήτοισι κασιγνήτῃ μέλε θυμῷ.
 ἀλλ' οἶαι κούραι λητίδες ἐν τε δόμοισιν
 ἐν τε χοροῖς ἀγορῇ τε καὶ εἰλαπίνῃσι μέλονται·
 820 εἰσέκε τις θεὸς ἄμυν ὑπέρβιον ἐμβαλε θάρσος,
 ἄψ' ἀναερχομένους Θρηκῶν ἀπο μηκέτι πύργοις
 δέχθαι, ἢ ἢ φρονέειεν ἅπερ θέμις, ἢ πῃ ἄλλη
 αὐταῖς ληιάδεσσιν ἀφορμηθέντες ἵκοντο.
 οἱ δ' ἄρα θεσσάμενοι παίδων γένος, ὅσσον ἔλειπτο
 ἄρσεν ἀνὰ πτολίεθρον, ἔβαν πύλιν, ἐνθ' ἔτι νῦν περ
 Θρηκίης ἄροσιν χιονώδεα ναιετάουσιν.

¹ κούραι Rzsch : τε κούραι MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

When my father Thoas reigned over the citizens, then our folk starting from their homes used to plunder from their ships the dwellings of the Thracians who live opposite, and they brought back hither measureless booty and maidens too. But the counsel of the baneful goddess Cypris was working out its accomplishment, who brought upon them soul-destroying infatuation. For they hated their lawful wives, and, yielding to their own mad folly, drove them from their homes; and they took to their beds the captives of their spear, cruel ones. Long in truth we endured it, if haply again, though late, they might change their purpose, but ever the bitter woe grew, twofold. And the lawful children were being dishonoured in their halls, and a bastard race was rising. And thus unmarried maidens and widowed mothers too wandered uncared for through the city; no father heeded his daughter ever so little even though he should see her done to death before his eyes at the hands of an insolent step-dame, nor did sons, as before, defend their mother against unseemly outrage; nor did brothers care at heart for their sister. But in their homes, in the dance, in the assembly and the banquet all their thought was only for their captive maidens; until some god put desperate courage in our hearts no more to receive our lords on their return from Thrace within our towers so that they might either heed the right or might depart and begone elsewhither, they and their captives. So they begged of us all the male children that were left in the city and went back to where even now they dwell on the snowy tilths of Thrace.

τῷ ὑμεῖς στρωφᾶσθ' ἐπιδήμιοι· εἰ δέ κεν αἰθι
 ναιετάειν ἐθέλοις, καί τοι ἄδοι, ἢ τ' ἂν ἔπειτα
 πατρὸς ἐμεῖο Θόαντος ἔχοις γέρας· οὐδέ τί σ' οἶω
 γαῖαν ὀνόσσεσθαι· περὶ γὰρ βαθυλήϊος ἄλλων 830
 νήσων, Αἰγαίῃ ὅσαι εἰν ἄλλ' ναιετάουσιν.

ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ἐπὶ νῆα κίων ἐτάροισιν ἐνίσπες
 μύθους ἡμετέρους, μῆδ' ἔκτοθι μέμνε πόληος·

Ἴσκεν, ἁμαλδύνουσα φόβου τέλος, οἷον ἐτύχθη
 ἀνδράσιν· αὐτὰρ ὁ τήνγε παραβλήδην προσέειπεν·

Ἵψιπύλῃ, μίλα κεν θυμηδέος ἀντιάσαιμεν
 χρησμοσύνης, ἣν ἄμμι σέθεν χατέουσιν ὀπάξεις.
 εἰμι δ' ὑπότροπος αὐτῆς ἀνὰ πτόλιν, εὖτ' ἂν ἕκαστα
 ἐξείπω κατὰ κόσμον· ἀνακτορίῃ δὲ μελέσθω
 σοίγ' αὐτῇ καὶ νήσος· ἔγωγε μὲν οὐκ ἀθερίζων 840
 χίζομαι, ἀλλά με λυγροὶ ἐπισπέρχουσιν ἄεθλοι·

ἼΙ, καὶ δεξιτερῆς χειρὸς θίγην· αἶψα δ' ὀπίσσω
 βῆ ῥ' ἵμεν, ἀμφὶ δὲ τόνγε νεήνιδες ἄλλοθεν ἄλλαι
 μυρίαὶ εἰλίσσοντο κεχαρμέναι, ὄρφα πυλάων
 ἐξέμολεν· μετέπειτα δ' ἐντροχάλοισιν ἁμάξαις
 ἰκτὴν εἰσαπέβαν, ξεινῆια πολλὰ φέρουσαι,
 μῖθον δὲ ἤδη πάντα διηνεκέως ἀγόρευσεν,
 τὸν ῥα καλεσσαμένη διεπέφραδεν Ἵψιπύλεια·
 καὶ δ' αὐτοὺς ξεινοῦσθαι ἐπὶ σφέα δῶματ' ἄγεσκον
 ῥηιδίως· Κύπρις γὰρ ἐπὶ γλυκὺν ἥμερον ὥρσεν 850
 Ἰφαιστόιο χάριν πολυμήτιος, ὅφρα κεν αὐτὶς
 ναίηται μετόπισθεν ἀκήρατος ἀνδράσι Λῆμνος.

Ἐνθ' ὁ μὲν Ἵψιπύλῃ βασιλῆϊον ἐς δόμον ὤρτο
 Λίσονίδης· οἱ δ' ἄλλοι ὅπῃ καὶ ἔκυσαν ἕκαστος,
 Ἡρακλῆος ἀνευθεν, ὁ γὰρ παρὰ νηὶ λέλειπτο

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK 1

Do ye therefore stay and settle with us; and shouldst thou desire to dwell here, and this finds favour with thee, assuredly thou shalt have the prerogative of my father Thoos; and I deem that thou wilt not scorn our land at all; for it is deep-soiled beyond all other islands that lie in the Aegæan sea. But come now, return to the ship and relate my words to thy comrades, and stay not outside our city."

She spoke, glossing over the murder that had been wrought upon the men; and Jason addressed her in answer:

"Hypsipyle, very dear to our hearts is the help we shall meet with, which thou grantest to us who need thee. And I will return again to the city when I have told everything in order due. But let the sovereignty of the island be thine; it is not in scorn I yield it up, but grievous trials urge me on."

He spake, and touched her right hand; and quickly he turned to go back: and round him the young maids on every side danced in countless numbers in their joy till he passed through the gates. And then they came to the shore in smooth-running wains, bearing with them many gifts, when now he had related from beginning to end the speech which Hypsipyle had spoken when she summoned them; and the maids readily led the men back to their homes for entertainment. For Cypris stirred in them a sweet desire, for the sake of Hephaestus of many counsels, in order that Lemnos might be again inhabited by men and not be ruined.

Thereupon Aeson's son started to go to the royal home of Hypsipyle; and the rest went each his way as chance took them, all but Heracles; for he of his

αὐτὸς ἐκὼν παῦροί τε διακρινθέντες ἑταῖροι.
αὐτίκα δ' ἄστυ χοροῖσι καὶ εἰλαπίνρσι γεγῆθει
καπνῷ κνισίηντι περίπλεον· ἔξοχα δ' ἄλλων
ἰθανάτων Ἥρης υἷα κλυτὸν ἠδὲ καὶ αὐτὴν
Κύπριν ᾠοιδῆσιν θυέσσιν τε μειλίσσοντο.

860

ἄμβολίῃ δ' εἰς ἡμαρ αἰεὶ ἐξ ἡματος ἦεν
ναυτιλίας· δηρὸν δ' ἂν ἐλίνυον αὐτὶ μένοντες,
εἰ μὴ ἁολλίσσας ἐτάρους ἀπάνευθε γυναικῶν
Ἡρακλῆς τολοισιν ἐνιπτάζων μετέειπεν·

Ἰδαιμόνιοι, πάτρης ἐμφύλιον αἷμ' ἀποέργει
ἡμέας; ἦε γύμων ἐπιδευέες ἐνθάδ' ἔβημεν
κεῖθεν, ὄνοσσάμενοι πολιήτιδας; αὐτὶ δ' ἔαδεν
ναίοντας λιπαρὴν ἄροσιν Λήμνοιο ταμέσθαι;
οὐ μὰν εὐκλειεῖς γε σὺν ὀθνεῖσιν γυναιξίν
ἐσσόμεθ' ὥδ' ἐπὶ δηρὸν ἐελμένοι· οὐδέ τι κῶας
αὐτόματον δώσει τις ἐλὼν θεὸς εὐξαμένοισιν.
ἴσμεν αὐτὶς ἕκαστοι ἐπὶ σφέα· τὸν δ' ἐνὶ λέκτροις
Ἵψιπύλης εἶατε πανήμερον, εἰσόκε Λήμνον
παισὶν ἐσανδρώσῃ, μεγάλη τέ ἐ βᾶξις ἴκηται·

870

ὣς νεῖκεσεν ὄμιλον· ἐναντία δ' οὐ νύ τις ἔτλη
ὄμματ' ἀνασχεθέειν, οὐδὲ προτιμυθήσασθαι·
ἀλλ' αὐτῶς ἀγορήθεν ἐπαρτίζοντο ἰέεσθαι
σπερχόμενοι. ταὶ δὲ σφιν ἐπέδραμον, εὐτ' ἐδάησαν.
ὥς δ' ὅτε λείρια καλὰ περιβρομέουσι μέλισσαι
πέτρης ἐκχύμεναι σιμβληίδος, ἀμφὶ δὲ λειμῶν
ἐρσήεις γίνονται, ταὶ δὲ γλυκὺν ἄλλοτε ἄλλον
καρπὸν ἀμέργουσιν πεποτημένοι· ὥς ἔρα ταίγῃ
ἐνδοκῆς ἀνέρας ἀμφὶ κινυρόμεναι προχέοντο,
χερσὶ τε καὶ μύθοισιν ἐδεικανόωντο ἕκαστον,

880

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

own will was left behind by the ship and a few chosen comrades with him. And straightway the city rejoiced with dances and banquets, being filled with the steam of sacrifice; and above all the immortals they propitiated with songs and sacrifices the illustrious son of Hera and Cypris herself. And the sailing was ever delayed from one day to another; and long would they have lingered there, had not Heracles, gathering together his comrades apart from the women, thus addressed them with reproachful words:

"Wretched men, does the murder of kindred keep us from our native land? Or is it in want of marriage that we have come hither from thence, in scorn of our countrywomen? Does it please us to dwell here and plough the rich soil of Lemnos? No fair renown shall we win by thus tarrying so long with stranger women; nor will some god seize and give us at our prayer a fleece that moves of itself. Let us then return each to his own; but him leave ye to rest all day long in the embrace of Hypsipyle until he has peopled Lemnos with men-children, and so there come to him great glory."

Thus did he chide the band; but no one dared to meet his eye or to utter a word in answer. But just as they were in the assembly they made ready their departure in all haste, and the women came running towards them, when they knew their intent. And as when bees hum round fair lilies pouring forth from their hive in the rock, and all around the dewy meadow rejoices, and they gather the sweet fruit, flitting from one to another; even so the women eagerly poured forth, clustering round the men with loud lament, and greeted each one with hands and

εὐχόμεναι μακάρεσσιν ἀπήμονα νόστον ὀπάσσαι.
ὥς δὲ καὶ Ἐψιπύλῃ ἡρήσατο χεῖρας ἐλοῦσα
Λίσονίδεω, τὰ δὲ οἱ ῥέε δάκρυα χίται ἰόντος·

· Νίσσεο, καὶ σὲ θεοὶ σὺν ἀπηρέσιν αὐτὶς ἐταίροις
χρύσειον βασιλῆι δέρος κομίσειαν ἄγοντα
αὐτῶς, ὥς ἐθέλεις καὶ τοι φίλον· ἦδε δὲ νῆσος
σκῆπτρά τε πατρός ἐμεῖο παρέσσεται, ἦν καὶ
ὀπίσσω

890

δὴ ποτε νοστήσας ἐθέλῃς ἄψορρον ἰκέσθαι.
ῥηιδίως δ' ἂν εἰοὶ καὶ ἀπείρονα λαὸν ἀγείραις
ἄλλων ἐκ πολίων. ἄλλ' οὐ σύγχε τήνδε μενοινῆν
σχήσεις, οὐτ' αὐτὴ προτιύσσομαι ὦδε τελείσθαι.
μῦθεο μὴν ἀπέων περ ὁμῶς καὶ νόστιμος ἦδη
Ἐψιπύλῃς· λῆπε δ' ἡμῖν ἔπος, τό κεν ἐξανύσαιμι
πρόφρων, ἦν ἄρα δὴ με θεοὶ δώωσι τεκέσθαι.

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Λίσονος υἱὸς ἀγαιόμενος προσέειπεν·
· Ἐψιπύλῃ, τὰ μὲν οὕτω ἐναίσιμα πάντα γένοιτο
ἐκ μακίρων· τὴν δ' ἐμέθεν πέρι θυμὸν ἀρείω
ἴσχαν', ἐπεὶ πάτρην μοι ἄλις Πελῖας ἔκῃτι
ναιετάειν· μοῦνον με θεοὶ λύσειαν ἀέθλων.
εἰ δ' οὐ μοι πέπρωται ἐς Ἑλλάδα γαῖαν ἰκέσθαι
τηλοῦ ἀναπλάοντι, σὺ δ' ἄρσενα παῖδα τέκῃαι,
πέμπε μιν ἡβήσαντα Πελασγίδος ἔνδον Ἰωλκοῦ
πατρί τ' ἐμῷ καὶ μητρὶ δῖης ἄκος, ἦν ἔρα τούσγχε
τέτμη ἔτι ζῶοντας, ἔν' ἀνδῖχα τοῖο ἄνακτος
σφοῖσιν πορσύνωνται ἐφέστιοι ἐν μεγάροισιν.

900

· Ἢ, καὶ ἔβαιν' ἐπὶ νῆα παροίτατος· ὥς δὲ καὶ
ἄλλοι

910

βαῖνον ἀριστῆες· λάζοντο δὲ χερσὶν ἐρετμὰ
ἐνσχερῶ ἐζόμενοι· πρυμνήσια δὲ σφισιν Ἄργος
λύσεν ὑπὲκ πέτρης ὑλιμυρέος. ἐνθ' ἄρα τοίγχε

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

voice, praying the blessed gods to grant him a safe return. And so Hypsipyle too prayed, seizing the hands of Aeson's son, and her tears flowed for the loss of her lover:

"Go, and may heaven bring thee back again with thy comrades unharmed, bearing to the king the golden fleece, even as thou wilt and thy heart desireth; and this island and my father's sceptre will be awaiting thee, if on thy return hereafter thou shouldst choose to come hither again; and easily couldst thou gather a countless host of men from other cities. But thou wilt not have this desire, nor do I myself forbode that so it will be. Still remember Hypsipyle when thou art far away and when thou has returned; and leave me some word of bidding, which I will gladly accomplish, if haply heaven shall grant me to be a mother."

And Aeson's son in admiration thus replied: "Hypsipyle, so may all these things prove propitious by the favour of the blessed gods. But do thou hold a nobler thought of me, since by the grace of Pelias it is enough for me to dwell in my native land; may the gods only release me from my toils. But if it is not my destiny to sail afar and return to the land of Hellas, and if thou shouldst bear a male child, send him when grown up to Pelasgian Iolcus, to heal the grief of my father and mother if so be that he find them still living, in order that, far away from the king, they may be cared for by their own hearth in their home."

He spake, and mounted the ship first of all; and so the rest of the chiefs followed, and, sitting in order, seized the oars; and Argus loosed for them the hawsers from under the sea-beaten rock. Where-

κόπτον ὕδωρ δολιχῆσιν ἐπικρατέως ἐλαίτησιν.
 ἐσπέριοι δ' Ὀρφῆος ἐφημοσύνησιν ἔκελσαν
 νῆσυν ἐς Ἥλέκτρης Ἀτλαντίδος, ὅφρα δαέντες
 ἄρρητους ἀγανῆσι τελεσφορίῃσι θέμιστας
 σωύτεροι κρυόεσσαν ὑπεῖρ ἅλα ναυτίλλοιντο.
 τῶν μὲν ἔτ' οὐ προτέρω μυθήσομαι· ἀλλὰ καὶ αὕτῃ
 νῆσος ὁμῶς κεχάροίτο καὶ οἱ λάχον ὄργια κείνα 920
 δαίμονες ἐνναέται, τὰ μὲν οὐ θέμις ἄμυν ἀείδειν.

Κεῖθεν δ' εἰρεσίῃ Μέλανος διὰ βένθεα πόντου
 ἴεμενοι τῇ μὲν Θρηκῶν χθόνα, τῇ δὲ περαίην
 Ἴμβρον ἔχον καθύπερθε· νέον γε μὲν ἡέλιοιο
 δυομένου Χερόνησον ἐπὶ προύχουσαν ἴκοντο.
 ἐνθα σφιν λαιψήρως αἶη νότος, ἰστία δ' οὐρῶν
 στησίμενοι κούρης Ἀθαμαντίδος αἰπὰ βέεθρα
 εἰσέβαλον· πέλαγος δὲ τὸ μὲν καθύπερθε λέλειπτο
 ἥρι, τὸ δ' ἐννύχιοι Ῥοιτειίδος ἔνδοθεν ἀκτῆς
 μέτριοι, Ἰδαίην ἐπὶ δεξιὰ γαίαν ἔχοντες. 930
 Δαρδανίην δὲ λιπόντες ἐπιπροσέβαλλον Ἀβύδω,
 Περκώτην δ' ἐπὶ τῇ καὶ Ἀβαρνίδος ἡμαθόεσσαν
 ἡμόνα ζαθέην τε παρήμειβον Πιτύειαν.
 καὶ δὴ τοίγ' ἐπὶ νυκτὶ διάνδιχα νηὸς ἰούσης
 δίνῃ πορφύροντα δεινύσαν Ἑλλήσποντον.

Ἔστι δὲ τις αἰπεῖα Προποντίδος ἔνδοθι νῆσος
 τυτθὸν ἀπὸ Φρυγίης πολυληγίου ἡπείροιο
 εἰς ἅλα κεκλιμένη, ὅσσον τ' ἐπιμύρεται ἰσθμὸς
 χέρσῳ ἐπιπρηγῆς καταειμένος. ἐν δὲ οἱ ἀκταὶ
 ἀμφίδυμοι, κεῖνται δ' ὑπὲρ ὕδατος Αἰσθήποιο· 940
 Ἀρκτων μιν καλέουσιν ὄρος περὶ ναιετάοντες·

καὶ τὸ μὲν ὑβρισταί τε καὶ ἄγριοι ἐνναλοῦσιν
 Γηγενέες, μέγα θαῦμα περικτιόνεσσιν ἰδέσθαι·
 ἐξ γὰρ ἐκάστερ χεῖρες ὑπέρβιοι ἠερέθονται,
 αἱ μὲν ἀπὸ στιβαρῶν ὤμων δύο, ταὶ δ' ὑπένερθεν
 τέσσαρες αἰνοτάτῃσιν ἐπὶ πλεύρῃς ἀραρυῖαι.
 ἰσθμὸν δ' αὖ πεδίον τε Δολιόνες ἀμφενέμοντο
 ἄνδρες· ἐν δ' ἥρως Αἰνῆιος υἱὸς ἀνασσει
 Κύζικος, ὃν κούρη Δίου τέκεν Εὐσώροιο
 Αἰνῆτη. τοὺς δ' οὔτι καὶ ἔκπαγλοί περ ἑόντες 950
 Γηγενέες σίνοντο, Ποσειδάωνος ἀρωγῇ·
 τοῦ γὰρ ἔσαν τὰ πρῶτα Δολιόνες ἐκγεγαῶτες.
 ἐνθ' Ἀργῶ προύτυψεν ἐπείγομένη ἀνέμοισιν
 Θρηακίοις, Καλὸς δὲ λιμὴν ὑπέδεκτο θέουσας.
 κεῖσε καὶ εὐναίης ὀλίγον λίθον ἐκλύσαντες
 Τίφυος ἐννεσίησιν ὑπὸ κρήνῃ ἐλίποντο,
 κρήνῃ ὑπ' Ἀρτακίῃ· ἕτερον δ' ἔλον, ὅστις ἀρήρει,
 βριθύν· ἀτὰρ κεῖνόν γε θεοπροπῖαις Ἑκάτοιο
 Νηλεΐδαι μετόπισθεν Ἰάονες ἰδρύσαντο
 ἱερόν, ἣ θέμις ἦεν, Ἰησοῖῃς ἐν Ἀθήνῃς. 960
 Τοὺς δ' ἄμυδις φιλότῃτι Δολιόνες ἠδὲ καὶ αὐτὸς
 Κύζικος ἀντήσαντες ὅτε στόλον ἠδὲ γενέθλην
 ἐκλυον, οἵτινες εἶεν, εὐξείνως ἀρέσαντο,
 καὶ σφεας εἰρεσίῃ πέπιθον προτέρωσε κιόντας
 ἄστεος ἐν λιμένι πρυμνήσια νηὸς ἀνάψαι.
 ἐνθ' οἷγ' Ἑκβασίῳ βωμὸν θέσαν Ἀπόλλωνι
 εἰσάμενοι παρὰ θίνα, θνητολῆς τ' ἐμέλοντο.
 δῶκεν δ' αὐτὸς ἀναξ λαρὸν μέθυ δευομένοισιν
 μῆλ' αἰ θ' ὁμοῦ· δὴ γάρ οἱ ἦν φάτις, εὐτ' ἂν ἱκωνται
 ἀνδρῶν ἡρώων θεῖος στόλος, αὐτίκα τότεγε 970
 μείλιχον ἀντιῖαν, μηδὲ πτολέμοιο μέλεσθαι.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

And insolent and fierce men dwell there, Earthborn, a great marvel to the neighbours to behold; for each one has six mighty hands to lift up, two from his sturdy shoulders, and four below, sitting close to his terrible sides. And about the isthmus and the plain the Doliones had their dwelling, and over them Cyzicus son of Aeneus was king, whom Aenete the daughter of goodly Eusorus bare. But these men the Earthborn monsters, fearful though they were, in nowise harried, owing to the protection of Poseidon; for from him had the Doliones first sprung. Thither Argo pressed on, driven by the winds of Thrace, and the Fair haven received her as she sped. There they cast away their small anchor-stone by the advice of Tiphys and left it beneath a fountain, the fountain of Arctae; and they took another meet for their purpose, a heavy one; but the first, according to the oracle of the Far-Darter, the Ionians, sons of Neleus, in after days laid to be a sacred stone, as was right, in the temple of Jasonian Athena.

Now the Doliones and Cyzicus himself all came together to meet them with friendliness, and when they knew of the quest and their lineage welcomed them with hospitality, and persuaded them to row further and to fasten their ship's hawsers at the city harbour. Here they built an altar to Ecbasian¹ Apollo and set it up on the beach, and gave heed to sacrifices. And the king of his own bounty gave them sweet wine and sheep in their need; for he had heard a report that whenever a godlike band of heroes should come, straightway he should meet it with gentle words and should have no thought of

¹ i.e. god of disembarkation.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK 1

war. As with Jason, the soft down was just blooming on his chin, nor yet had it been his lot to rejoice in children, but still in his palace his wife was untouched by the pangs of child-birth, the daughter of Perceosian Merope, fair-haired Cleite, whom lately by priceless gifts he had brought from her father's home from the mainland opposite. But even so he left his chamber and bridal bed and prepared a banquet among the strangers, casting all fears from his heart. And they questioned one another in turn. Of them would he learn the end of their voyage and the injunctions of Pelias; while they enquired about the cities of the people round and all the gulf of the wide Propontis; but further he could not tell them for all their desire to learn. In the morning they climbed mighty Dindymum that they might themselves behold the various paths of that sea; and they brought their ship from its former anchorage to the harbour, Chytus; and the path they trod is named the path of Jason.

But the Earthborn men on the other side rushed down from the mountain and with crags below blocked up the mouth of vast Chytus towards the sea, like men lying in wait for a wild beast within. But there Hercules had been left behind with the younger heroes and he quickly bent his back-springing bow against the monsters, and brought them to earth one after another; and they in their turn raised huge rugged rocks and hurled them. For these dread monsters too, I ween, the goddess Hera, bride of Zeus, had nurtured to be a trial for Hercules. And therewithal came the rest of the martial heroes returning to meet the foe before they reached the

Γηγενέων ἥρωες ἀρήιοι, ἡμὲν οἰστοῖς
 ἡδὲ καὶ ἐγχαίῃσι δεδεγμένοι, εἰσόκε πάντα
 ἀντιβίην ἀσπερχὲς ὀρινομένους ἐδαίξαν.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε δούρατα μακρὰ νέον πελέκεσσι τυπέντα
 ὕλοτόμοι στοιχηδὸν ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖνι βάλῃωσιν,
 ὄφρα νοτισθέντα κρατεροὺς ἀνεχόιατο γόμφους·
 ὥς οἱ ἐν ξυνοχῇ λιμένος πολιοῖο τέταντο
 ἐξείης, ἄλλοι μὲν ἐς ἄλμυρόν ἀθρόοι ὕδωρ
 δύπτοντες κεφαλὰς καὶ στήθεα, γυῖα δ' ὑπερθεν
 χέρσῳ τεινόμενοι· τοὶ δ' ἔμπαλιν, αἰγιαλοῖο
 κράατα μὲν ψαμάθοισι, πόδας δ' εἰς βένθος
 ἔρειδον,

1000

ἄμφω ἅμ' οἰωνοῖσι καὶ ἰχθύσι κύρμα γενέσθαι.
 Ἦρωες δ', ὅτε δὴ σφιν ἀταρβῆς ἔπλετ' ἀεθλος,
 δὴ τότε πείσματα νηὸς ἐπὶ πνοιῆς ἀνέμοιο
 λυσάμενοι προτέρῳσε διέξ ὕλῃς οἶδμα νέοντο.
 ἢ δ' ἔθεεν λαΐφεισσι πανήμερος· οὐ μὲν ἰούσης
 νυκτὸς ἔτι ῥιπὴ μένεν ἔμπεδον, ἀλλὰ θύελλαι
 ἀντίαι ἤρπάζον ὀπίσω φέρον, ὄφρ' ἐπέλασαν
 αὐτὶς ἐυξείνοισι Δολίοσιν. ἐκ δ' ἄρ' ἔβησαν
 αὐτονοχί· Ἱερὴ δὲ φατίζεται ἡδ' ἔτι πέτρη,
 ἣ πέρι πείσματα νηὸς ἐπεσσύμενοι ἐβύλοντο.
 οὐδέ τις αὐτὴν νῆσον ἐπιφραδέως ἐνόησεν
 ἔμμεναι· οὐδ' ὑπὸ νυκτὶ Δολίονες ἀψ' ἀνιόντας
 ἥρωας νημερτὲς ἐπήσαν· ἀλλὰ που ἀνδρῶν
 Μακρίεων εἴσαντο Πελασγικὸν ἄρεα κέλσαι.
 τῷ καὶ τεύχεα δύντες ἐπὶ σφίσι χεῖρας ἄειραν.
 σὺν δ' ἔλασαν μελίας τε καὶ ἀσπίδας ἀλλήλοισιν
 ὀξεῖν ἱκελοι ῥιπῇ πυρός, ἣ τ' ἐν θάμνοισι
 ἀυάλοισι πεσοῦσα κορύσσεται· ἐν δὲ κυδοιμὸς
 δεινὸς τε ζαμενὴς τε Δολιονίῳ πέσε δῆμῳ.

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οὐδ' ὄγε δημοσότης ὑπὲρ μῶρον αὐτὶς ἔμελλεν
 οἴκαδε νυμφιδίους θαλάμους καὶ λέκτρον ἰκέσθαι.
 ἀλλὰ μιν Αἰσονίδης τετραμμένον ἰβὺς ἐοῖο
 πλῆξεν ἐπαίξας στῆθος μέσον, ἀμφὶ δὲ δουρὶ
 ἀστέον ἑρραίσθη· ὁ δ' ἐπὶ ψαμιάβοισιν ἐλυσθεὶς
 μοῖραν ἀνέπλησεν. τὴν γὰρ θέμις οὔ ποτ' ἀλύξαι
 θνητοῖσιν· πάντῃ δὲ περὶ μέγα πέπταται ἔρκος.
 οἷς τὸν οἰόμενόν που ἄδευκέος ἔκτοθεν ἄτης
 εἶναι ἀριστήων αὐτῇ ὑπὸ νυκτὶ πέδησεν
 μαρνάμενον κεύκοισι· πολεῖς δ' ἐπαρηγόντες ἄλλοι
 ἔκταθεν Ἡρακλέης μὲν ἐνήρατο Τηλεκλῆα
 ἠδὲ Μεγαβρόντην· Σφόδρῳ δ' ἐνάρειξεν Ἀκαστος·
 Πηλεὺς δὲ Ζέλῳν εἶλεν ἀρηϊθόον τε Γέφυρον.
 αὐτὰρ ἐνυμελὴς Τελαμῶν Βασίλῃα κατέκτα.
 Ἰδας δ' αὖ Προμέα, Κλυτίος δ' Ἰάκινθον ἐπεφνεν,
 Τυνδαρίδαί δ' ἀμφω Μεγαλοσσάκῃα Φλογίῳ τε.
 Οἶνεβος δ' ἐπὶ τοῖσιν ἔλεν θρασύν Ἰτυμονῆα
 ἠδὲ καὶ Ἀρτακέα, πρόμον ἀνδρῶν· οὓς ἔτι πάντας
 ἐνναέται τιμαῖς ἥρωσι κυδαίνουσιν.
 οἱ δ' ἄλλοι εἷξαντες ὑπέτρεσαν, ἥτε κίρκους
 ὠκυπέτας ἀγέληδὸν ὑποτρέσσωσι πέλειαι.
 ἐς δὲ πύλας ὁμῶδ' ἐπέσου ἀθρόοι· αἶψα δ' αὐτῆς
 πλῆτο πόλις στονόεντος ὑποτροπῆι πολέμοιο.
 ἠῶθεν δ' ὄλαϊν καὶ ἀμύχανον εἰσενόησαν
 ἀμπλακίην ἀμφω· στυγερὸν δ' ἄχος εἶλεν ἰδόντας
 ἥρωας Μενέας Αἰνῆμον υἷα πάροινεν
 Κῶζικον ἐν κοῦρῃσι καὶ αἵματι πεπτηῶτα.
 ἥματα δὲ τρία πάντα γοῶν, τίλλοντό τε χαίτας
 αὐτοὶ ὁμῶς λαοὶ τε Δολιῶνες. αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα
 τρὶς περὶ χαλκείοις σὺν τεύχεσι δινηθέντες
 τόμβῳ ἐνεκτερέϊξαν, ἐπειρήσαντό τ' ἀέθλων,
 ἢ θέμις, ἅμ πεδῖον λειμώνιον, ἐνθ' ἔτι νῦν περ

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ἀγκέχονται τόδε σῆμα καὶ ὀψνγόνοισιν ἰδέσθαι.
 οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδ' ἄλοχος Κλείτη φθιμένοιο λείπειτο
 οὐ πάσιος μετόπισθε· κακῷ δ' ἐπὶ κύντερον ἄλλο
 ἦνυσεν, ἀφαμένη βρόχον αὐχένι. τὴν δὲ καὶ αὐταὶ
 νύμφαι ἀποφθιμένην Ἀλσηίδες ὠδύραντο·
 καὶ οἱ ἀπὸ βλεφάρων ὅσα δάκρυα χεῦαν ἔραζε,
 πάντα τάγε κρήνην τεύξαν θεαί, ἣν καλέουσιν
 Κλείτην, θυστήροιο περικλεῆς οὐνομα νύμφης.
 αἰνότατον δὴ κείνο Δολιχεύησι γυναιξίν
 ἀνδράσι τ' ἐκ Διὸς ἡμαρ ἐπήλυθεν· οὐδὲ γὰρ αὐτῶν
 ἔτλη τις πάσσασθαι ἔδη· υἱός, οὐδ' ἐπὶ δηρὸν
 ἐξ ἀχέων ἔργοιο μνηστῆράτων ἐμνώοντο·
 ἀλλ' αὐτως ἀφλεκτα διαζώεσκον ἔδοντες.
 ἔνθ' ἔτι νῦν, εὐτ' ἂν σφιν ἐτήσια χύτλα χέωνται
 Κύζικον ἐνναίοντες Ἰάονες, ἔμπεδον αἰεὶ
 πανδήμιοι μύλης πελάγους ἐπαλετρεύουσιν.
 Ἐκ δὲ τόθεν τρηχέαι ἀνῆρθησαν Ἀελλαι
 ἡμαθ' ὁμοῦ νύκτας τε δυώδεκα, τοὺς δὲ καταῦθι
 ναυτίλλεσθαι ἔρυκον. ἐπιπλομένη δ' ἐνὶ νυκτὶ
 ὄλλοι μὲν ῥα πάρος δεδμημένοι εὐνάζοντο
 ὕπνῳ ἀριστῆες πύματον λείχος· αὐτὰρ Ἀκαστὸς
 Μόψος τ' Ἀμπυκίδης ἀδινά κνώσσοντας ἔρυκτο.
 ἢ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ ξανθοῖο καρήατος Λίσουρίδα
 πωτᾶτ' ἄλκυονες λιγυρῇ ὑπὶ θεσπίζουσα
 λῆξιν ὀρινσμένων ἀνέμων· συνέηκε δὲ Μόψος
 ἱκταίης ὀρινθος ἐναίσιμον ὅσσαν ἀκούσας.
 καὶ τὴν μὲν θεὸς αὐτὶς ἀπέτραπεν, ἔξε δ' ὕπερθεν
 νηῖον ἀφλάστοιο μετῆρος αἶψα.
 τὸν δ' ὄγε κεκλιμένον μαλακοῖς ἐνὶ κόεσιν οἶῶν
 κινήσας ἀνέγειρε παρασχεδόν, ὧδέ τ' εἶπεν·

1070

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THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

"Son of Aeson, thou must climb to this temple on rugged Dindymum and propitiate the mother¹ of all the blessed gods on her fair throne, and the stormy blasts shall cease. For such was the voice I heard but now from the halcyon, bird of the sea, which, as as it flew above thee in thy slumber, told me all. For by her power the winds and the sea and all the earth below and the snowy seat of Olympus are complete; and to her, when from the mountains she ascends the mighty heaven, Zeus himself, the son of Cronos, gives place. In like manner the rest of the immortal blessed ones reverence the dread goddess."

Thus he spake, and his words were welcome to Jason's ear. And he arose from his bed with joy and woke all his comrades hurriedly and told them the prophecy of Mopsus the son of Ampycus. And quickly the younger men drove oxen from their stalls and began to lead them to the mountain's lofty summit. And they loosed the hawsers from the sacred rock and rowed to the Thracian harbour; and the heroes climbed the mountain, leaving a few of their comrades in the ship. And to them the Macrian heights and all the coast of Thrace opposite appeared to view close at hand. And there appeared the misty mouth of Bosphorus and the Mysian hills; and on the other side the stream of the river Aesepus and the city and Nepelian plain of Adrasteia. Now there was a sturdy stump of vine that grew in the forest, a tree exceeding old; this they cut down, to be the sacred image of the mountain goddess; and Argos smoothed it skilfully, and they set it upon that rugged hill beneath a canopy of lofty oaks, which of all trees have their roots deepest. And near it they

¹ Rhea.

βαμὸν δ' αὖ χέραδος παρενήμεον· ἀμφὶ δὲ φύλλοις
 στεφύμενοι δρυῖνοισι θυηπολὴς ἐμέλοντο,
 Μητέρα Δινδυμένη πολυπότιαν ἀγκαλέοντες,
 ἐνθαέτιν Φρυγίης, Τετίην θ' ἤμα Κύλληρόν τε,
 οἳ μῶνοι πολέων μοιρηγέται ἤδ' ἑσέδρου
 Μητέρος Ἰδαίης κεκληγатаι, ὅσοι ἔασιν
 Δάκτυλοι Ἰδαῖοι Κρηταῖες, οὓς ποτε νύμφη
 Ἀγχιμέλη Δικταῖον ἀνὰ σπέος ἀμφοτέρησιν
 βραξαμένη γαίης Οἰαξίδος ἐβλάστησεν.
 πολλὰ δὲ τήνγε λιτῆσιν ἀπαστρέψαι ἐριώλας
 Αἰσονίδης γουνάζετ' ἐπιλλείβων ἱεροῖσιν
 αἰθομένοισι· ἄμυδις δὲ νέοι Ὀρφῆος ἀνωγῇ
 σκαίροντες βηταρμὸν ἐνόπλιον ὠρχήσαντο,
 καὶ σάκεα ξιφέεσσιν ἐπέκτυπον, ὥς κεν ἰωὴ
 δύσφημος πλάζοιτο δι' ἠέρος, ἦν ὅτι λαοὶ
 κηδείῃ βασιλῆος ἀνέστενον. ἔνθεν ἔσαικ' ἰ
 ῥύμβω καὶ τυπάνῳ Ῥεῖην Φρύγης ἰλιάσκονται
 ἢ δὲ που εἰσαγέσσω ἐπὶ φρένα θῆκε θυηλαῖς
 ἀνταῖη δαίμων· τὰ δ' εὐκότα σήματ' ἔγεντο.
 δένδρεα μὲν καρπὸν χέον ἄσπετον, ἀμφὶ δὲ ποσσὶν
 αὐτομάτῃ φύε γαῖα τερείνης ἄνθεα ποίης.
 θῆρες δ' εἰλυοὺς τε κατὰ ξυλόχους τε λιπόντες
 οὐρῇσιν σαίνοντες ἐπήλυθον. ἢ δὲ καὶ ἄλλο
 θῆκε τέρας· ἐπεὶ οὔτι παρσίτερον ὕδατι νᾶεν
 Δίνδυμον· ἀλλὰ σφιν τότ' ἀνέβραχε διψύδος
 αὐτως
 ἐκ κορυφῆς ἄλληκτον. Ἰησονίην δ' ἐνέπουσιν
 κεῖνο ποτὸν κρήνην περιναίεται ἄνδρες ὀπίσσω.
 καὶ τότε μὲν δαίτ' ἀμφὶ θεῶς θέσαν οὖρεσιν
 Ἀρκτων,
 μέλποντες Ῥεῖην πολυπότιαν· αὐτὰρ ἐς ἠὲ
 ληξάντων ἀνέμων νῆσον λίπον εἰρεσίησιν.

ἔνθ' ἔρις ἄνδρα ἕκαστον ἀριστήων ὀρόθυνεν.
 ὅστις ἀπολλήξειε πανύστατος. ἀμφὶ γὰρ αἰθήρ
 νήκεμος ἐστόρεσεν δῖνας, κατὰ δ' εὐνάσε πόντον.
 οἱ δὲ γαληναῖη πίσυνοι ἐλάσκον ἐπιπρὸ
 νῆα βίη· τὴν δ' αὖ κε διέξ' ἄλως ἀΐτσουσαν
 οὐδὲ Ποσειδάωνος ἀελλόποδες κίχον ἵπποι.
 ἔμπης δ' ἐγρομένοιο σάλου ζαχρηέσιν αὔραις.
 αἱ νέον ἐκ ποταμῶν ὑπὸ δειέλου ἠερέθονται,
 τειρόμενοι καὶ δὴ μετέλώφειον· αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῦσγε
 πασσυδίῃ μαγέοντας ἐφέλκετο κάρτει χειρῶν
 Ἴρακλῆς, ἐτίνασσε δ' ἀρηρύτα δούρατα νηός.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Μυσῶν λεληημένοι ἠπείροιο
 Ῥυνδακίδεω προχοᾷς μέγα τ' ἥριον Αἰγαίῳ
 τυτθὸν ὑπὲκ Ὀρυγίης παρεμέτρεον εἰσορόωντες,
 δὴ τότε ἄνοχλίζων τετρηχότας οἰδματος ὀλκοὺς
 μεσσόθεν ἄξεν ἐρετμόν. αὐτὰρ τρύφος ἄλλο μὲν
 αὐτὸς

1100

ἄμφω χερσὶν ἔχων πέσε δόχμιος, ἄλλο δὲ πόντος
 κλύζε παλιρροθίοισι φέρων. ἀνὰ δ' ἔζετο συγῇ
 παπταίνων· χεῖρες γὰρ ἀήθεον ἠρεμέουσαι.

1170

Ἴμος δ' ἀγρόθεν εἰσι φυτοσκάφος ἢ τις ἀροτραὺς
 ἄσπασίως εἰς αὐλιν εἶν, δόρποιο χατίζων.
 αὐτοῦ δ' ἐν προμολῇ τετρυνμένα γούνατ' ἔκαμψεν
 αὐσταλέος κοινῇσι, περιτριβέας δὲ τε χεῖρας
 εἰσορόων κακὰ πολλὰ ἐῷ ἠρήσατο γαστρὶ
 τῆμος ἄρ' οὔγ' ἀφίκοντο Κιανίδος ἠθεα γαίης
 ἄμφ' Ἀργαυθώνειον ὄρος προχοᾷς τε Κίσιο.
 τοὺς μὲν ἐνξέλωις Μυσοὶ φιλότῃσι κιόντας
 δειδέχατ', εὐναῖται κείνης χθονός, ἡμὰ τέ σφιν
 μῆλ' αἰ τε δευομένοις μέθ' ἄσπετον ἐγγυάλιξαν.
 ἔνθα δ' ἔπειθ' οἱ μὲν ξύλα κήγκανα, τοὶ δὲ
 λεχαίην

1180

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

Thereupon a spirit of contention stirred each chieftain, who should be the last to leave his oar. For all around the windless air smoothed the swirling waves and lalled the sea to rest. And they, trusting in the calm, mightily drove the ship forward; and as she sped through the salt sea, not even the storm-footed steeds of Poseidon would have overtaken her. Nevertheless when the sea was stirred by violent blasts which were just rising from the rivers about evening, forspent with toil, they ceased. But Heracles by the might of his arms pulled the weary rowers along all together, and made the strong-knit timbers of the ship to quiver. But when, eager to reach the Mysian mainland, they passed along in sight of the mouth of Rhyndacus and the great cairn of Aegaeon, a little way from Phrygia, then Heracles, as he ploughed up the furrows of the roughened surge, broke his oar in the middle. And one half he held in both his hands as he fell sideways, the other the sea swept away with its receding wave. And he sat up in silence glaring round; for his hands were unaccustomed to lie idle.

Now at the hour when from the field some delver or ploughman goes gladly home to his hut, longing for his evening meal, and there on the threshold, all squallid with dust, bows his wearied knees, and, beholding his hands worn with toil, with many a curse reviles his belly; at that hour the heroes reached the homes of the Cician land near the Arganthonian mount and the outfall of Cius. Then as they came in friendliness, the Mysians, inhabitants of that land, hospitably welcomed, and gave them in their need provisions and sheep and abundant wine. Hereupon some brought dried wood, others from the

φυλλάδα λειμώνων φέρον ἄσπετον ἀμήσαντες,
στόρνυσθαι· τοὶ δ' ἀμφὶ πυρήια διενύεσκον·
οἱ δ' οἶνον κρητῆρσι κέρω, πονέοντό τε θαῖτα,
Ἐκβασίφ' ῥέξαντες ὑπὸ κνέφας Ἀπόλλωνι.

Λυτὰρ ὁ θαῖτ' αἶνυσθαι ἐταίροις· εὐ ἐπιτείλας
βῆ β' Ἴμεν εἰς Ἰλην υἷος Διός, ὥς κεν ἐρετμὸν
οἱ αὐτῷ φθαίῃ καταχείρισιν ἐντύνασθαι.

εὗρεν ἔπειτ' ἐλάτην ἀλαλήμενος, οὔτε τι πολλοῖς 1190

ἄχθομένην ὄξοις, αὐδὲ μέγα τηλεθώσας,

ἀλλ' αἶον ταναΐης ἔρνος πέλει αἰγείροιο·

τόσση ὁμῶς μῆκος τε καὶ ἐς πᾶχος ἦεν ἰδέσθαι.

ῥίμφα δ' οἷστοδόκησεν μὲν ἐπὶ χθονὶ θῆκε φαρέτρην
αὐτοῖσιν τόξοισιν, ἔδν δ' ἀπὸ δέρμα λέοντος.

τὴν δ' ὄγε χαλκοβαρεῖ ῥοπάλῳ δαπέδοιο τινάζας
νεύθεν ἀμφοτέρῃσι περὶ στύπος ἔλλαβε χερσίν,

ἠγορήε πίστεως· ἐν δὲ πλατύν ὤμων ἔρεισεν

εὐ διαβάς· πεδόθεν δὲ βαθύρριζόν περ ἐοῦσαν

προσφύς ἐξήειρε σὺν αὐτοῖς ἔχμασι γαίης. 1200

ὥς δ' ὅταν ἀπροφάτως ἰστὸν νεός, εὖτε μάλιστα

χειμερίῃ ὀλοῷο δύσις πέλει Ὀρίωνος,

ὑψόθεν ἐμπλήξασα θεῇ ἀνέμοιο κατὰίξ

αὐτοῖσι σφῆνισσιν ὑπὲς προτόνων ἐρύσσηται·

ὥς ὄγε τὴν ἤειρεν, ὁμοῦ δ' ἀνὰ τόξα καὶ ἰούς

δέρμα θ' ἐλὼν ῥοπαλόν τε παλίσσυτος ὄρτο
νέεσθαι.

Τόφρα δ' Ὀλλας χαλκῇ σὺν κάλπιδι νόσφιν
ὀμίλον

δίξητο κρήνης ἱερὸν ῥόον, ὥς κέ οἱ ὕδωρ

φθαίῃ ἀφυσσάμενος ποτιδύρπιον, ἄλλα τε πάντα
ὀτραλέως κατὰ κόσμον ἐπαρτίσσειεν ἰόντι. 1210

¹ θαῖτ' αἶνυσθαι ἐταίροις O. Schenklidur; θαῖνυσθαι ἐτάροις L;
θαῖνυσθαι ἐτάροις G; θαῖνυσθαι ἐτάροις est om. Parisian.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK I

meadows leaves for beds which they gathered in abundance for strewing, whilst others were twirling sticks to get fire; others again were mixing wine in the bowl and making ready the feast, after sacrificing at nightfall to Apollo Æbasius.

But the son of Zeus having duly enjoined on his comrades to prepare the feast took his way into a wood, that he might first fashion for himself an oar to fit his hand. Wandering about he found a pine not burdened with many branches, nor too full of leaves, but like to the shaft of a tall poplar; so great was it both in length and thickness to look at. And quickly he laid on the ground his arrow-holding quiver together with his bow, and took off his lion's skin. And he loosened the pine from the ground with his bronze-tipped club and grasped the trunk with both hands at the bottom, relying on his strength; and he pressed it against his broad shoulder with legs wide apart; and clinging close he raised it from the ground deep-rooted though it was, together with clods of earth. And as when unexpectedly, just at the time of the stormy setting of baleful Orion, a swift gust of wind strikes down from above, and wrenches a ship's mast from its stays, wedges and all; so did Hercules lift the pine. And at the same time he took up his bow and arrows, his lion skin and club, and started on his return.

Meantime Hylas with pitcher of bronze in hand had gone apart from the throng, seeking the sacred flow of a fountain, that he might be quick in drawing water for the evening meal and actively make all things ready in due order against his lord's

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return. For in such ways did Heracles nurture him from his first childhood when he had carried him off from the house of his father, goodly Theiodamas, whom the hero pitilessly slew among the Dryopians because he withstood him about an ox for the plough. Theiodamas was cleaving with his plough the soil of fallow land when he was smitten with the curse; and Heracles bade him give up the ploughing ox against his will. For he desired to find some pretext for war against the Dryopians for their bane, since they dwelt there reckless of right. But these tales would lead me far astray from my song. And quickly Hylas came to the spring which the people who dwell thereabouts call Pegae. And the dances of the nymphs were just now being held there; for it was the care of all the nymphs that haunted that lovely headland ever to hymn Artemis in songs by night. All who held the mountain peaks or glens, all they were ranged far off guarding the woods; but one, a water-nymph was just rising from the fair-flowing spring; and the boy she perceived close at hand with the rosy flush of his beauty and sweet grace. For the full moon beaming from the sky smote him. And Cypris made her heart faint, and in her confusion she could scarcely gather her spirit back to her. But as soon as he dipped the pitcher in the stream, leaning to one side, and the brimming water rang loud as it poured against the sounding bronze, straightway she laid her left arm above upon his neck yearning to kiss his tender mouth; and with her right hand she drew down his elbow, and plunged him into the midst of the eddy.

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Alone of his comrades the hero Polyphemus, son of Eilatus, as he went forward on the path, heard the boy's cry, for he expected the return of mighty Heracles. And he rushed after the cry, near Pegae, like some beast of the wild wood whom the bleating of sheep has reached from afar, and burning with hunger he follows, but does not fall in with the flocks; for the shepherds beforehand have penned them in the fold, but he groans and roars vehemently until he is weary. Thus vehemently at that time did the son of Eilatus groan and wandered shouting round the spot; and his voice rang pitious. Then quickly drawing his great sword he started in pursuit, in fear lest the boy should be the prey of wild beasts, or men should have lain in ambush for him faring all alone, and be carrying him off, an easy prey. Hereupon as he brandished his bare sword in his hand he met Heracles himself on the path, and well he knew him as he hastened to the ship through the darkness. And straightway he told the wretched calamity while his heart laboured with his panting breath.

"My poor friend, I shall be the first to bring thee tidings of bitter woe. Hylas has gone to the well and has not returned safe, but robbers have attacked and are carrying him off, or beasts are tearing him to pieces; I heard his cry."

Thus he spake; and when Heracles heard his words, sweat in abundance poured down from his temples and the black blood boiled beneath his heart. And in wrath he hurled the pine to the ground and hurried along the path whither his feet bore on his impetuous soul. And as when a bull stung by a gadfly tears along, leaving the meadows

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

οὐδ' ἐγγέλῃς δέσεται, πρήσσει δ' ὁδόν, ἄλλοτ'
ἄπαυστος,

ἄλλοτε δ' ἰστάμενος, καὶ ἀνὰ πλατὺν ἀνχέν'
αἰέρων

ἴησιν μύκημα, κακῷ βεβωλημένος οἰστρον·
ὥς ὄγε μαιμώνων ὅτε μὲν βοᾷ γούνατ' ἐπαλλεν
συνεχέως, ὅτε δ' αὖτε μεταλλήγων καμάτοιο
τῆλε διαπρύσιον μεγάλη βοῶσσκεν αὐτῇ.

1270

Λυτῖκα δ' ἀκρατάτας ὑπερέσχεθεν ἄκριας ἀσπὴρ
ῥῆος, πνοιᾶ δὲ κατήλυθον· ὦκα δὲ Τίφυς
ἐσβαίνειν ὁρώθυνεν, ἐπαύρεσθαί τ' ἀνέμοιο.
οἱ δ' εἰσβαῖνον ἄφαρ λελημένοι· ὕψι δὲ νηὸς
εὐναίης ἐρύσαντες ἀνεκρούσαντο κάλῳας.

κυρτώθη δ' ἀνέμῳ λῖνα μεσσοῦθι, τῆλε δ' ἀπ' ἀκτῆς
γηθόσυνοι φερέοντο παραὶ Ποσιδῆϊον ἄκρην.

ἦμος δ' οὐρανόθεν χαροπὴ ὑπολάμπεται ἥως
ἐκ περάτης ἀνιοῦσα, διαγλαύσσουσι δ' ἄταρποί,
καὶ πεδία δροσόνετα φαεινῇ λάμπεται αἴγλῃ,
τῆμος ταύσ' ἐνόησαν ἡδρεῖνσι λαπόντες.

1280

ἐν δὲ σφιν κρατέρῳ νεῖκος πέσεν, ἐν δὲ κολῶος
ἥσπετος, εἰ τὸν ἄριστον ἀποπραλιπόντες ἔβησαν
σφωιτέρων ἐτάρων. ὁ δ' ἀμηχανήσιν ἀτυχθεὶς
οὔτε τι τοῖον ἔπος μετεφώνεεν, οὔτε τι τοῖον

λίσουίδης· ἀλλ' ἦστο βαρεῖν νεώθεν ἄτη
θυμὸν ἔδων· Τελαμῶνα δ' ἔλεν χόλος, ὥδέ τ' εἶπεν·

"Πο' αὐτως εὐκῆλος, ἐπεὶ νῦ τοι ἄρμενον ἦεν
Ἑρακλῆα λιπεῖν· σέο δ' ἔκταθι μῆτις δρῶρεν,
ὄφρα τὸ κείρου κῦδος ἀν' Ἑλλάδα μὴ σε καλέψῃ,
αἶ κε θεοὶ δώωσιν ὑπότροπον οἴκαδε νόστου.

1290

ἀλλὰ τί μύθων ἦδος; ἐπεὶ καὶ νῦσφιν ἐταίρων
εἰμι τεῶν, οἱ τόγγε δόλον συνετεκμήναντο.

Ἦ, καὶ ἐς Ἀγνιάδην Τίφυν θόρε· τῷ δὲ οἱ ὄσσε

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and the marsh land, and recks not of herdsmen or herd, but presses on, now without check, now standing still, and raising his broad neck he bellows, loudly stung by the maddening fly; so he in his frenzy now would ply his swift knees unresting, now again would cease from toil and shout afar with loud pealing cry.

But straightway the morning star rose 'above the topmost peaks and the breeze swept down; and quickly did Tiphys urge them to go aboard and avail themselves of the wind. And they embarked eagerly forthwith; and they drew up the ship's anchors and hauled the ropes astern. And the sails were bellied out by the wind, and far from the coast were they joyfully borne past the Posideion headland. But at the hour when gladsome dawn shines from heaven, rising from the east, and the paths stand out clearly, and the dewy plains shine with a bright gleam, then at length they were aware that unwittingly they had abandoned those twain. And a fierce quarrel fell upon them, and violent tumult, for that they had sailed and left behind the bravest of their comrades. And Aeson's son, bewildered by their hapless plight, said never a word, good or bad; but sat with his heavy load of grief, eating out his heart. And wrath seized Telamon, and thus he spake:

"Sit there at thy ease, for it was fitting for thee to leave Hercules behind; from thee the project arose, so that his glory throughout Hellas should not overshadow thee, if so be that heaven grants us a return home. But what pleasure is there in words? For I will go, I only, with none of thy comrades, who have helped thee to plan this treachery."

He spake, and rushed upon Tiphys son of Hagnias;

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and his eyes sparkled like flashes of ravening flame. And they would quickly have turned back to the land of the Mysians, forcing their way through the deep sea and the unceasing blasts of the wind, had not the two sons of Thracian Boreas held back the son of Aeacus with harsh words. Hapless ones, assuredly a bitter vengeance came upon them thereafter at the hands of Heracles, because they stayed the search for him. For when they were returning from the games over Pelias dead he slew them in sea-girt Tenos and heaped the earth round them, and placed two columns above, one of which, a great marvel for men to see, moves at the breath of the blustering north wind. These things were thus to be accomplished in after times. But to them appeared Glaneus from the depths of the sea, the wise interpreter of divine Nereus, and raising aloft his shaggy head and chest from his waist below, with sturdy hand he seized the ship's keel, and then cried to the eager crew:

"Why against the counsel of mighty Zeus do ye purpose to lead bold Heracles to the city of Aeetes? At Argos it is his fate to labour for insolent Eurystheus and to accomplish full twelve toils and dwell with the immortals, if so be that he bring to fulfilment a few more yet; wherefore let there be no vain regret for him. Likewise it is destined for Polyphemus to found a glorious city at the mouth of Cius among the Mysians and to fill up the measure of his fate in the vast land of the Chalybes. But a goddess-nymph through love has made Hylas her husband, on whose account those two wandered and were left behind."

He spake, and with a plunge wrapped him about

ἄμφι δέ οἱ δύνῃσι κυκώμενον ἄφρεσιν ὕδωρ
 πορφύρεον, κοίλῃν δὲ δι᾽ ἄλδος ἐκλυσσε νῆα.
 γήθησαν δ' ἤρωτες· ὁ δ' ἐσσυμένως ἐβεβήκει
 Λίακίδης Τελαμῶν ἐς Ἰήσονα, χεῖρα δὲ χειρὶ 1330
 ἄκρην ἀμφιβαλὼν προσπτύξατο, φώνησέν τε·

· Λίσσινδῃ, μὴ μοί τι χολώσῃσαι, ἀφραδίῃσιν
 εἴ τί περ ἁσάμην· περὶ γάρ μ' ἄχος εἶλεν ἐνισπείν
 μῦθον ὑπερφιάλόν τε καὶ ἄσχετον. ἀλλ' ἀνέμοισιν
 δίοομεν ἀμπλακίην, ὥς καὶ πάρος εὐμενέοντες·

Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Αἴσωνος υἱὸς ἐπιφραδέως προσέειπεν·
 · ὦ πέπον, ἡ μάλα δὴ με κακῶ ἐκυδάσσαις μύθῳ,
 φᾶς ἐνὶ τοῖσιν ἅπασιν ἐνὲος ἠνδρὸς ἀλείψην
 ἔμμεναι. ἀλλ' οὐ θῆν τοι ἁδευκέα μῆριν ἀέξω,
 πρὶν περ ἰνιθθεῖς· ἐπεὶ οὐ περὶ πάεσι μῆλαιν, 1340
 οὐδὲ περὶ κτεάτεσσι χαλεφαίμενος μενέηναις,
 ἀλλ' ἐτάρου περὶ φωτός. ἔολπα δέ τοι σὲ καὶ
 ἄλλω

ἄμφ' ἐμεῦ, εἰ τοιόνδε πέλοι ποτέ, δηρίσασθαι·

· Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἀρθμηθέντες, ὅπῃ πάρος, ἐδριόωντο.
 τῷ δὲ Διὸς βουλῇσιν, ὁ μὲν Μυσοῖσι βαλέσθαι
 μέλλεν ἐπώνυμον ἄστυ πολισσάμενός ποταμοῖο
 Κίλατίδης Πολύφημος· ὁ δ' Εὐρυσθέης ἀέθλους
 αὐτίς ἰὼν πονέεσθαι. ἐπηπείλησε δὲ γαῖαν
 Μυσίδ' ἀναστήσειν αὐτοσχεδόν, ὅππότε μὴ οἱ
 ἢ ζωοῦ εὕροιεν Ἔλα μόνον, ἢ θανόντος. 1350
 τοῖο δὲ ῥύσι' ὅπασσαν ἀποκρίναντες ἀρίστους
 νείας ἐκ δήμοιο, καὶ ὅρκια ποιήσαντο,
 μήποτε μαστεύοντες ἀπολλήξουσιν καμάτοιο.
 ταῦνεκεν εἰσέτι νῦν περ Ἔλαν ἐρέουσι Κιανοί,

κοῦρον Θεοδάμαντος, ἐκτιμένης τε μέλονται
Τρηχίνος. δὴ γάρ βα κατ' αὐτόθι νάσσατο παῖδας,
οὓς οἱ ῥύσια κείθεν ἐπιπροέηκαν ἄγεσθαι.

Νηῦν δὲ πανημερίην ἀνεμος φέρε νυκτί τε πάσῃ
λάβρος ἐπιπνεύων· ἀτὰρ οὐδ' ἐπὶ τυτθὸν ἄητο
ἥοις τελλομένης, οἱ δὲ χθονὸς εἰσανέχονσαν
ἄκτῃν ἐκ κόλποιο μάλ' εὐρεῖαν ἐσιδέσθαι
φρασσύμενοι, κόπῃσιν ἅμ' ἠελίῳ ἐπέκελσαν.

1300

BOOK II



SUMMARY OF BOOK II

FIGHT between Polydeuces and Amycus, King of the Bebrycians; defeat and death of Amycus (1-97).—Victory of the Argonauts over the Bebrycians; arrival at the abode of Phineus (98-177).—History of Phineus and the Harpies, who are chased by Zetes and Calais, sons of Boreas (178-300).—Prediction of Phineus and return of the sons of Boreas (301-447).—Episode of Paræbius (448-499).—Origin of the Etesian winds (500-527).—Argo passes between the Symplegades by the aid of Athena (528-647).—Arrival at the isle Thynia: apparition of Apollo, to whom they pay honour (648-719).—Arrival among the Mariandyni, where King Lycus welcomes them (720-814).—Deaths of Idmon and Tiphys: Aeneas chosen pilot (815-910).—The Argonauts pass Sinope and the Cape of the Amazons, and reach the Chalybes (911-1008).—Customs of the Tibareni and Mossynoeci (1009-1029).—Contest with the birds of the isle Aretias, where they meet with the sons of Phrixus, shipwrecked on their way to Hellas (1030-1225).—Arrival in Colchis (1226-1285).

Ἐνθα δ' ἔσαν σταθμοὶ τε βοῶν αὐλὸς τ' Ἀμύκοιο,
 Βεβρύκων βασιλῆος ἀγῆνορος, ὅν ποτε νύμφη
 τίκτε Ποσειδάωνι Γενεθλίῳ εὐνηθεῖσα
 Βιθυνὸς Μελίη, ὑπεροπλήεστατον ἀνδρῶν
 ὅστ' ἐπὶ καὶ ξείνοισιν αἰεκέα θεσμόν ἔθηκεν,
 μήτιν' ἀποστείχειν, πρὶν πειρήσασθαι ἐοῖο
 πυγμαχίης· πολέας δὲ περικτιόνων ἐδάϊξεν,
 καὶ δὲ τότε προτὶ νῆα κίων, χρεῖώ μιν ἐρέσθαι
 ναυτιλῆς, οἳ τ' εἰεν, ὑπερβασίησιν ἄτισσεν,
 τοῖον δ' ἐν πάντεσσι παρασχεδὸν ἔκφατο μῦθον· 10

Κέκλυθ', ἁλίπλαγκτοι, τίπερ ἰδμεναι ὕμνῳ
 ἔοικεν.

οὕτινα θεσμίον ἐστὶν ἀφορμηθέντα νέεσθαι
 ἀνδρῶν ὀθνείων, ὅς κεν Βέβρυξι πελίσσῃ,
 πρὶν χείρεσσιν ἐμῇσιν εἰς ἀνὰ χεῖρας ἄειραι.
 τῷ καὶ μοι τὸν ἄριστον ἀποκριδὸν οἶον ὁμίλου
 πυγμαχίῃ στήσασθε καταυτύθι δηνυνθῆναι.
 εἰ δ' ἂν ἀπηλεγέοντες ἐμὰς πατέοιτε θέμιστας,
 ἢ κέν τις στυγερώς κρατερὴ ἐπιέψετ' ἀνάγκη·

Ἥ ῥα μέγα φρονέων· τοὺς δ' ἄγριος εἰσαλόντας
 εἶλε χόλος· περὶ δ' αὖ Πολυδεύκεα τύψεν
 ὀμοκλή.

αἶψα δ' εἶν ἐτάρων πρόμος ἴστατο, φώνησέν τε·
 Ἰσχεο νῦν, μῆδ' ἄρμυ κακῆν, ὅτις εὐχεται εἶναι,
 φαῖνε βίην· θεσμοῖς γὰρ ὑπείξομεν, ὥς ἀγορεύεις.
 αὐτὸς ἐκὼν ἤδη τοι ὑπὸ σχομαι ἀντιτάσθαι.

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Thus he spake outright; but the other with rolling eyes glared on him, like to a lion struck by a javelin when hunters in the mountains are hemming him round, and, though pressed by the throng, he recked no more of them, but keeps his eyes fixed, singling out that man only who struck him first and slew him not. Hereupon the son of Tyndareus laid aside his mantle, closely-woven, delicately-wrought, which one of the Lennian maidens had given him as a pledge of hospitality; and the king threw down his dark cloak of double fold with its clasps and the knotted crook of mountain olive which he carried. Then straightway they looked and close close by a spot that pleased them and bade their comrades sit upon the sand in two lines; nor were they alike to behold in form or in stature. The one seemed to be a monstrous son of baleful Typhoeus or of Earth herself, such as she brought forth aforetime, in her wrath against Zeus; but the other, the son of Tyndareus, was like a star of heaven, whose beams are fairest as it shines through the nightly sky at eventide. Such was the son of Zeus, the bloom of the first dawn still on his cheeks, still with the look of gladness in his eyes. But his might and fury waxed like a wild beast's; and he poised his hands to see if they were pliant as before and were not altogether numbed by toil and rowing. But Amycus on his side made no trial; but standing apart in silence he kept his eyes upon his foe, and his spirit surged within him all eager to dash the life-blood from his breast. And between them Lycoreus, the henchman of Amycus, placed at their feet on each side two pairs of gauntlets made of raw hide, dry, exceeding

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but only grazing the skin the bronze sped under his belt and touched not the flesh. Likewise Aretus with well-seasoned club smote Iphitus, the steadfast son of Eurytus, not yet destined to an evil death; assuredly soon was he himself to be slain by the sword of Clytius. Then Ancaeus, the dauntless son of Lyeurgus, quickly seized his huge axe, and in his left hand holding a bear's dark hide, plunged into the midst of the Bebrycians with furious onset; and with him charged the sons of Aescus, and with them started warlike Jason. And as when amid the folds grey wolves rush down on a winter's day and scare countless sheep, unmarked by the keen-scented dogs and the shepherds too, and they seek what first to attack and carry off, often glaring around, but the sheep are just huddled together and trample on one another; so the heroes grievously scared the arrogant Bebrycians. And as shepherds or bee-keepers smoke out a huge swarm of bees in a rock, and they meanwhile, pent up in their hive, murmur with droning hum, till, stupefied by the murky smoke, they fly forth far from the rock; so they stayed steadfast no longer, but scattered themselves inland through Bebrycia, proclaiming the death of Amycus; fools, not to perceive that another woe all unforeseen was laid upon them. For at that hour their vineyards and villages were being ravaged by the hostile spear of Lycus and the Mariandyni, now that their king was gone. For they were ever at strife about the ironbearing land. And now the foe was destroying their standings and farms,

φείξεσθαι κακὸν οἶτον, ἐπεὶ μῖλα μεσσόθι νηὸς
λάβρον επικρέμαται, καθάπερ νέφος. ἀλλὰ τόγ'
ἔμπης

στόρνυται, εἰ κ' ἐσθλοῖο κυβερνητῆρος ἐπαύρη.
τῷ καὶ Τίφυος οἶδε δαημοσύνησι νέοντο,
ἄσκηθεῖς μὲν, ἀτὰρ πεφοβημένοι. ἡματι δ' ἄλλη
ἀντιπέρην γαίῃ Βιθυνίδι πείσματ' ἀνῆψαν.

Ἴνθα δ' ἐπ' ἄκτιον οἶκον Ἀγηνωρίδης ἔχε Φινεύς,
ὃς περὶ δὴ πάντων ὀλοώτατα πῆματ' ἄνετλη
εἵνεκα μαντοσύνης, τὴν οἱ πάρος φργυαλίξεν
Λητοῖδης· οὐδ' ὅσσον ὑπίζετο καὶ Διὸς αὐτοῦ
χρίων ἀτρεκέως ἱερὸν νόον ἀνθρώποισιν.
τῷ καὶ οἱ γῆρας μὲν ἐπὶ δηναίων ἱαλλεν,
ἐκ δ' ἔλετ' ὀφθαλμῶν γλυκερὸν φάος· οὐδὲ γίνυ-
σθαι

αἶα ἡπείρεσίοισιν ὀνείασιν, ὅσσα οἱ αἰεὶ
θέσφατα πευθόμενοι περνωιέται οἴκαδ' ἄγειρον.
ἀλλὰ διὰ νεφέων ἄφνω πέλας ἰσσοῦσαι

Ἄρπυιαι στόματος χειρῶν τ' ἀπὸ γαμφηλῆσιν
συνεχέως ἤρπαζον. ἐλείπετο δ' ἄλλοτε φορβῆς
οὐδ' ὅσον, ἄλλοτε τυτθόν, ἵνα ζῶων ἀκίχοιτο.
καὶ δ' ἐπὶ μυδαλέην ὁδὸν χέον· οὐδέ τις ἔτλη
μὴ καὶ λευκαρίηνδε φορεύμενος, ἢ λλ' ἰπποτηλοῦ
ἐστηώς· τοῖόν οἱ ἀπέπνεε λείψανα δαιτός.

αὐτίκα δ' εἰσαΐων ἐνοπὴν καὶ δοῦπον ὀμίλου
τοῖσδ' αὐτοῖς παριόντας ἐπήσειν, ὧν οἱ ἰόντων
θέσφατον ἐκ Διὸς ἦεν ἐὴς ἀπόνασθαι ἰδωδῆς.
ὀρθωθείς δ' εὐνῆθεν, ἀκῆριον ἦντ' ὄνειρον,
βάκτρῃ σκηπτόμενος ῥικνοῖς ποσὶν ἦε θύραζε,
τοίχους ἀμφαφύων· τρέμε δ' ἄψα μισσομένοιο
ἀδρανέῃ γῆραι τε· πίνω δέ οἱ αὖσταλός χρῶς

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death, for in its fury it hangs over the middle of the ship, like a cloud, yet it sinks away into calm if it meets with a skillful helmsman. So they by the steering-craft of Tiphys escaped, unhurt but sore dismayed. And on the next day they fastened the lawwers to the coast opposite the Bithynian land.

There Phineus, son of Agenor, had his home by the sea, Phineus who above all men endured most bitter woes because of the gift of prophecy which Leto's son had granted him aforetime. And he revered not a whit even Zeus himself, for he foretold unerringly to men his sacred will. Wherefore Zeus sent upon him a lingering old age, and took from his eyes the pleasant light, and suffered him not to have joy of the dainties untold that the dwellers around ever brought to his house, when they came to enquire the will of heaven. But on a sudden, swooping through the clouds, the Harpies with their crooked beaks incessantly snatched the food away from his mouth and hands. And at times not a morsel of food was left, at others but a little, in order that he might live and be tormented. And they poured forth over all a loathsome stench; and no one dared not merely to carry food to his mouth but even to stand at a distance; so foully reeked the remnants of the meal. But straightway when he heard the voice and the tramp of the band he knew that they were the men passing by, at whose coming Zeus' oracle had declared to him that he should have joy of his food. And he rose from his couch, like a lifeless dream, bowed over his staff, and crept to the door on his withered feet, feeling the walls; and as he moved, his limbs trembled for weakness and age; and his parched skin was caked with dirt,

ἐσκληήκει. βίηοι δὲ σὺν ὅστέα μοῦνον ἔργον.
 ἐκ δ' ἐλθὼν μογέροιο καθέζετο γούνα βαρυθυεῖς
 οὔδοῦ ἐπ' αὐλαίοιο· κῆρος δέ μιν ἀμφεκάλυψεν
 πορφύρεος, γαῖαν δὲ πέριξ ἐδόκησε φέρεσθαι
 ρυιόθεν, ἀβληχρῶ δ' ἐπὶ κόματι κέκλιτ' ἄναυδος.
 οἱ δὲ μιν ὡς εἶδοντο, περισταδὸν ἤγερέβοντο
 καὶ ῥάφον. αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῖσι μάλα μόλις ἐξ ὑπάτοις
 στήθεος ἀμπνεύσας μετεφώνηε μαντοσύνησιν·

Κλύτε, Πανελλήνων προφερέστατοι, εἰ ἐτεὸν δὴ
 οἶδ' ὑμεῖς, οὗς δὴ κρινερῇ βασιλῆος ἐφετμή 210
 Ἀργῶν ἐπὶ νηὸς ἄγει μετὰ κῶας Ἰήσων.
 ὑμεῖς ἀτρεκέως, ἔτι μοι νόος οἶδεν ἕκαστα
 ἦσι θεοπροπίησι. χάριν νύ τοι, ὦ ἄνα, Λητοῦς
 νιέ, καὶ ἀργαλέοισιν ἀνέπτομαι ἐν καμάτοισιν.
 Ἰκεσίῳ πρὸς Ζηνός, ὅτις ῥέγιστος ἱλιτροῖς
 ἀνδράσι, Φοῖβου τ' ἀμφὶ καὶ αὐτῆς εἵνεκεν Ἥρης
 λίσσομαι, ἥ περιᾶλλα θεῶν μέμβλεσθε κίοντες,
 χραίσμετέ μοι, ῥύσασθε δυσάμμορον ἀνέρα λύμης,
 μηδὲ μ' ἀκυδεῖρσιν ἀφορμήθητε λιπόντες
 αὐτως. οὐ γὰρ μοῦνον ἐπ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν Ἑρινὺς 220
 λαῖξ' ἐπέβη, καὶ γῆρας ἀμήρυτον ἐς τέλος ἔλκω·
 πρὸς δ' ἔτι πικρότατον κρέμαται κακὸν ἄλλο
 κακοῖσιν.

Ἄρπυιαι στόματός μοι ἀφαρπάξουσιν ἐδωδὴν
 ἔκποθεν ἀφράστοιο καταίσσουσαι ὀλέθρον.
 ἰσχω δ' οὔτινα μῆτιν ἐπίρροθον. ἀλλὰ κε ρεῖα
 αὐτὸς εἶν δολάθοιμι νόον δόρποιο μεμηλώς,
 ἢ κείνας· ὥδ' αἶψα διηέριαι ποτέονται.
 τυτθὸν δ' ἦν ἄρα δῆπός· ἐδητύος ἄμμι λίπωσιν,
 πνεῖ τόδε μυδαλέον τε καὶ οὐ τλατῶν μένος ὁδμῆς·
 οὐδέ τις οὐδὲ μίνυθα βροτῶν ἄνσχοιτο πελάσσας, 230
 οὐδ' εἰ οἱ ἀδάμαντος ἐληλάμενον κέαρ εἴη.

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and naught but the skin held his bones together. And he came forth from the hall with wearied knees and sat on the threshold of the courtyard; and a dark stupor covered him, and it seemed that the earth reeled round beneath his feet, and he lay in a strengthless trance, speechless. But when they saw him they gathered round and marvelled. And he at last drew laboured breath from the depths of his chest and spoke among them with prophetic utterance:

"Listen, bravest of all the Hellenes, if it be truly ye, whom by a king's ruthless command Jason is leading on the ship *Argo* in quest of the fleece. It is ye truly. Even yet my soul by its divination knows everything. Thanks I render to thee, O king, son of *Leto*, plunged in bitter affliction though I be. I beseech you by *Zeus* the god of suppliants, the sternest foe to sinful men, and for the sake of *Phoebus* and *Hera* herself, under whose especial care ye have come hither, help me, save an ill-fated man from misery, and depart not uncaring and leaving me thus as ye see. For not only has the *Fury* set her foot on my eyes and I drag on to the end a weary old age; but besides my other woes a wee hangs over me—the bitterest of all. The *Harpies*, swooping down from some unseen den of destruction, ever snatch the food from my mouth. And I have no device to aid me. But it were easier, when I long for a meal, to escape my own thoughts than them, so swiftly do they fly through the air. But if haply they do leave me a morsel of food it reeks of decay and the stench is unendurable, nor could any mortal bear to draw near even for a moment, no, not if his heart were wrought of adamant. But necessity,

possesses me and this dark cloud upon my eyes, and the gods of the underworld—and may their curse be upon me if I die perjured thus—no wrath from heaven will fall upon you two for your help to me.”

Then were those two eager to help him because of the oath. And quickly the younger heroes prepared a feast for the aged man, a last prey for the Harpies; and both stood near him, to smite with the sword those pests when they swooped down. Scarcely had the aged man touched the food when they forthwith, like bitter blasts or flashes of lightning, suddenly darted from the clouds, and swooped down with a yell, fiercely craving for food; and the heroes beheld them and shouted in the midst of their onrush; but they at the cry devoured everything and sped away over the sea afar; and an intolerable stench remained. And behind them the two sons of Boreas raising their swords rushed in pursuit. For Zeus imparted to them tireless strength; but without Zeus they could not have followed, for the Harpies used ever to outstrip the blasts of the west wind when they came to Phineus and when they left him. And as when, upon the mountain-side, hounds, cunning in the chase, ran in the track of horned goats or deer, and as they strain a little behind gnash their teeth upon the edge of their jaws in vain; so Zetes and Calais rushing very near just grazed the Harpies in vain with their finger-tips. And assuredly they would have torn them to pieces, despite heaven's will, when they had overtaken them far off at the Floating Islands, had not swift Iris seen them and leapt down from the sky from heaven above, and checked them with these words:

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

Ὁὐ θέμις, ὦ νείεε Βορέω, ξιφέεσσιν ἐλάσσαι
Ἄρπυϊας, μεγάλοιο Διὸς κύνας· ὄρκια δ' αὐτῇ
δώσω ἐγών, ὥς αὖ οἱ ἔτι χρίμαφουσιν ἰοῦσαι.

290

Ὡς φασμένη λοιβὴν Στυγὸς ὤμοσεν, ἥτε θεοῖσιν
ῥηϊστή πέντεσσιν ὑπιδνωτῆτι τέ τέτυκται,
μὴ μὲν Ἀγηνωρίδαο δόμοις ἔτι τῆσδε πελάσσαι
εἰσαῦτις Φινῆος, ἐπεὶ καὶ μύρσιμον ἦεν.

οἱ δ' ὄκρυφ' εἴξαντες ὑπέστρεφον ἄψ' ἐπὶ νῆα
σῶεσθαι. Στροφάδας δὲ μετακλείουσ' ἄνθρωποι
νῆσους ταῖό γ' ἔκητι, πάρος Πλωτὰς καλέοντες.

Ἄρπυϊαί τ' Ἴρις τε διέτμαγεν. αἱ μὲν ἔδυσαν
κευθμῶνα Κρήτης Μινωίδος· ἡ δ' ἀνόρουσεν
Οὐλύμπόνδε, θαῆσι μεταχροῖνι πτερίγεσσιν.

300

Τόφρα δ' ἠριστῆας πινόμεν περὶ δέρμα γέροντος
πάντη φοιβήσαντες ἐπικριδὸν ἱρεύσαντο
μῆλα, τίτ' ἔξ' Ἀμύνκοιο λεηλασίης ἐκόμισσαν.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ μέγα ἔρπον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἔθεντο
δαίνυνθ' ἐξόμενοι· σὺν δέ σφισι δαίνυτο Φινεὺς
ἄρπαλέως, οἷόν τ' ἐν ὀνείρασι θυμὸν ἰαίνων.
ἐνθα δ' ἐπεὶ δόρποιο κορέσσαντ' ἠδὲ ποτῆτος,
παινύχιοι Βορέω μένον νείεας ἐγρήσσοντες.
αὐτὸς δ' ἐν μέσσοισι παρ' ἐσχάρῃ ἦστο γεραιὸς
πέριπατα ναυτιλίας ἐνέπων ἄνυσίν τε κελεύθον.

310

Κλυτὲ νυν, οὐ μὲν πάντα πέλει θέμις ὕμμι
δαῖναι
ἰτρεκές· ὅσσα δ' ἄμωρε θεοῖς φίλον, οὐκ ἐπι-
κεύσω.

ἰασάμην καὶ πρόσθε Διὸς νόον ἠφραδίῃσιν
χρεῖων ἐξείης τε καὶ ἔς τέλος. ὦδε γὰρ αὐτὸς
βούλεται ἀνθρώποις ἐπιδενέα θέσφατα φαίνειν
μαντησίῃς, ἵνα καὶ τι θεῶν χατέωσι νόοιο.

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"It is not lawful, O sons of Boreas, to strike with your swords the Harpies, the hounds of mighty Zeus; but I myself will give you a pledge, that hereafter they shall not draw near to Phineus."

With these words she took an oath by the waters of Styx, which to all the gods is most dread and most awful, that the Harpies would never thereafter again approach the home of Phineus, son of Agenor, for so it was fated. And the heroes yielding to the oath, turned back their flight to the ship. And on account of this men call them the Islands of Turning though aforetime they called them the Floating Islands. And the Harpies and Iris parted. They entered their den in Minoan Crete; but she sped up to Olympus, soaring aloft on her swift wings.

Meanwhile the chiefs carefully cleansed the old man's squalid skin and with due selection sacrificed sheep which they had borne away from the spoil of Amycus. And when they had laid a huge supper in the hall, they sat down and feasted, and with them feasted Phineus ravenously, delighting his soul, as in a dream. And there, when they had taken their fill of food and drink, they kept awake all night waiting for the sons of Boreas. And the aged sire himself sat in the midst, near the hearth, telling of the end of their voyage and the completion of their journey:

"Listen then. Not everything is it lawful for you to know clearly; but whatever is heaven's will, I will not hide. I was infatuated aforetime, when in my folly I declared the will of Zeus in order and to the end. For he himself wishes to deliver to men the utterances of the prophetic art incomplete, in order that they may still have some need to know the will of heaven.

· Πέτρας μὲν πάνμπρωτον, ἀφορμηθέντες ἐμεῖο,
 Κυανέας ὄψεσθε δύνω ἄλός ἐν ξυνοχῇσιν,
 τίων οὐτινὰ φημι διαμπερές ἐξαλέασθαι.
 οὐ γάρ τε ῥίξουσιν ἐρήρεινται νεότησιν,
 ἀλλὰ θαμὰ ξυνίασιν ἐναντίαι ἀλλήλησιν
 εἰς ἓν, ὑπερθε δὲ πολλὸν ἄλός κορυβύεται ὕδωρ
 βρασσύμενον· στρηγὲς δὲ περὶ στυφελῇ βρέμει
 ἰκτῆρ.

320

τῷ νῦν ἡμετέρησι παραιφασίησι πίθεσθε,
 εἰ ἐτεὸν πυκινῷ τε νόφῳ μακάρων τ' ἀλέγοντες
 πείρετε· μηδ' αὐτως αὐτιέγγρετον οἶτον ὄλησθε
 ἀφραδέως, ἣ θύνητ' ἐπισπόμενοι νεότητι.
 οἶωνῷ δὴ πρόσθε πελειάδι πειρήσασθαι
 νηὸς ἄπο προμεθέντες ἐφίμεν. ἦν δὲ δι' αὐτῶν
 πετρίων πόντονδε σὺν πτερύγεσσι δίηται,
 μηκέτι δὴν μηδ' αὐτοὶ ἐρηγύεσθαι κελεύθον,
 ἀλλ' εὖ καρτύναντες ἑαῖς ἐνὶ χερσὶν ἔρετμά
 τέμνεθ' ἄλός στεινωπὸν· ἐπεὶ φάος οὐ νύ τι τόσσον
 ἔσσετ' ἐν εὐχολῇσιν, ὅσον τ' ἐνὶ κάρτει χειρῶν.
 τῷ καὶ τᾶλλα μεθέντες ἐνήμεστον πονέεσθαι
 θαρσαλέως. πρὶν δ' οὔτι θεοὺς λίσσεσθαι ἐρύκοι.
 εἰ δέ κεν ἄντικρὺ πταμένη μετσηγγὺς ὄληται,
 ἀφορροὶ στέλλεσθαι· ἐπεὶ πολὺν βέλτερον εἶξαι
 ἀθανάτοισι. οὐ γάρ κε κακὸν μόρον ἐξαλέαισθε
 πετρίων, οὐδ' εἰ κε σιδηρεῖη πέλοι Ἀργῶ.

330

340

· Ὡς μέλαιοι, μὴ τλῆτε παρέξ ἐμὰ θέσφατα βῆναι,
 εἰ καὶ με τρὶς τόσσον οἶεσθ' Οὐρανίδησιν,
 ὅσσον ἀνάρσιός εἰμι, καὶ εἰ πλείον στυγέεσθαι
 μὴ τλῆτ' οἶωνοῖο πάρεξ ἔτι νηὶ περῆσαι.
 καὶ τὰ μὲν ὥς κη πέλη, τῶς ἔσσεται. ἦν δὲ φύγητε
 σύνδρομα πετρίων ἀσκηθέες ἐνδοθι Πόντου,
 αὐτίκα Βιβυνῶν ἐπὶ δεξιὰ γαῖαν ἔχοντες

πλώετο ῥιγγίνας πεφυλαγμένοι, εἰσόκεν αἶθε
 Ῥήβαν ὠκυρὴν ποταμὸν ἄκρην τε Μέλαιναν
 γυνάμψαντες νήσου Θουρίδος ὄρμον ἵκησθε.
 350 κεῖθεν δ' οὐ μάλα πούλῳ διέξ ἄλλος ἀντιπέραιν
 γῆν Μαρνανδυνῶν ἐπικέλσετε νοστήσαντες.
 ἔνθα μὲν εἰς Ἀῖδα καταιβάτις ἐστὶ κέλευθος,
 ἄκρην τε προβλήης Ἀχερουσιᾶς ὑψόθι τείνει,
 διωτῆρις τ' Ἀχέρων αὐτὴν διὰ νεϊόθι τέμνων
 ἄκρην ἐκ μεγάλης προχοᾶς ἵησι φάραγγος.
 ἀγχιμαλον δ' ἐπὶ τῇ πολέας παρανείσθε κολωνοῦς
 Παφλαγόγων, τοῖσιν τ' Ἐνετήιος ἐμβασίλευσεν
 πρῶτα Πέλοψ, τοῦ καὶ περ ἄφ' αἵματος εὐχετό-
 ωνται.

Ἦ ἔστι δὲ τις ἄκρην Ἐλίκης κατευαντίον Ἀρκτου, 360
 πάντοθεν ἡλίβατος, καὶ μιν καλέουσι Κάραμβιν,
 τῆς καὶ ὑπὲρ βορέας περισχίζονται ἀέλλαι·
 ὧδε μίλ' ἡμ πέλαγος τετραμμένη αἰθήρι κύρει.
 τῆνδε περιγυάμψαντι πολλὸς παρακέκλειται ἤδη
 Αἰγματοῖς· πολέος δ' ἐπὶ πείρασιν Αἰγματοῖο
 ἄκτῃ ἐπὶ προβλήτι ῥοαὶ Ἄλνος ποταμοῖο
 δεινὸν ἐρεύγονται· μετὰ τὸν δ' ἀρχίρροος Ἴρις
 μειότερος λευκῆσιν ἐλίσσεται εἰς ἅλα δίναις.
 370 κεῖθεν δὲ προτέρωσε μέγας καὶ ὑπείροχος ἀγκῶν
 ἐξαρέχει γαίης· ἐπὶ δὲ στόμα Θερμώδοντος
 κόλπῳ ἐν εὐδιόωντι θεμισκύρειον ὑπ' ἄκρην
 μύρεται, εὐρείης διαειμένος ἡπείροιο.
 ἔνθα δὲ Δολιαντος πεδίον, σχεδύθεν δὲ πόλλης
 τρισσαὶ Ἀραξουίδων, μετὰ τε σμυγερῶτατοι
 ἀνδρῶν

τροχέϊον Χάλυβες καὶ ἡπειρέα γαῖαν ἔχουσιν,
 ἐργατῖναι· τοὶ δ' ἀμφὶ σιδήρεα ἔργα μέλονται.
 ἄγχι δὲ ναιετάουσι πολέριπποις Τιβερηνοὶ

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right and sail on, and beware of the breakers, until ye round the swift river Ithébas and the black beach, and reach the harbour of the Isle of Thynias. Thence ye must turn back a little space through the sea and beach your ship on the land of the Marian-dyni lying opposite. Here is a downward path to the abode of Hades, and the headland of Acherusia stretches aloft, and eddying Acheron cleaves its way at the bottom, even through the headland, and sends its waters forth from a huge ravine. And near it ye will sail past many hills of the Paphlagonians, over whom at the first Eucæian Pelops reigned, and of his blood they boast themselves to be.

"Now there is a headland opposite Helice the Bear, steep on all sides, and they call it Carumbia, about whose crests the blasts of the north wind are sundered. So high in the air does it rise: turned towards the sea. And when ye have rounded it broad Aegialus stretches before you; and at the end of broad Aegialus, at a jutting point of coast, the waters of the river Halys pour forth with a terrible roar; and after it Iris flowing near, but smaller in stream, rolls into the sea with white eddies. Onward from thence the bend of a huge and towering cape reaches out from the land, next Thermodon at its mouth flows into a quiet bay at the Themiscyræus headland, after wandering through a broad continent. And here is the plain of Docas, and near are the three cities of the Amazons, and after them the Chalybes, most wretched of men, possess a soil rugged and unyielding—sons of toil, they busy themselves with working iron. And near them dwell the Tibareni, rich in sheep, beyond the

Ζηνὸς Ἐυφείνοιο Γερηταίην ὑπὲρ ἄκρην.
 τῇ δ' ἐπὶ Μασσύνοιοι ὁμούριοι ὑλήεσσαν
 ἐξείης ἠπειρον, ὑπωρείας τε νέμονται,
 δουρατέοις πύργοισιν ἐν οἰκίᾳ τεκτῆμαντες¹
 κάλινα καὶ θαλάμους² εὐπηγέας, οὗς καλέουσιν
 μύσσηνας· καὶ δ' αὐτοὶ ἐπ' ὠνυμοὶ ἐνθεν ἔασιν.
 τοὺς παραμειβόμενοι λισσῇ ἐπικέλσετε νήσω,
 μήτι παντοίῃ μὲν ἄναιδέας ἐξελάσαντες
 οἰωνούς, οἳ δῆθεν ὑπειρέσιοι ἐφέπανσαν
 νῆσον ἱρημαίην. τῇ μὲν τ' ἐπὶ νηὸν Ἄρης
 λαίρεον ποίησαν Ἀμαζονίδων βασίλειαι
 Ὀτρηρὴν τε καὶ Ἀντιόπην, ὅποτε στρατεύωντο.
 ἔνθα γὰρ ὕμιν ὄνειαρ ἄδευκός ἐξ ἁλός εἰσιν
 ἄρρητον· τῷ καὶ τε φίλα φρονέων ἀγορεύω
 ἰσχέμεν. ἀλλὰ τί με πάλιν χρεῖώ ἀλιτέσθαι
 μαντοσύνη τὰ ἕκαστα διηνεκές ἐξευέποντα;
 νήσου δὲ προτέρωσσε καὶ ἠπείροιο περαίης
 φέρβονται Φίλυρες· Φιλύρων δ' ἐφύπερθεν ἔασιν
 Μάκρωνες· μετὰ δ' αὖ περιώσια φύλα Βεχείρων.
 ἐξείης δὲ Σάπειρες ἐπὶ σφίσι ναιετάουσιν·
 Βύζηρες δ' ἐπὶ τοῖσιν ὁμιόλακες, ὧν ὑπερ ἤδη
 αὐτοὶ Κόλχοι ἔχονται ἀρήιοι. ἀλλ' ἐνὶ νηὶ
 πείρεθ', ἕως μυχάτῃ κεν ἐνιχρίμψητε θαλάσση.
 ἔνθα δ' ἐπ' ἠπείροιο Κυταιῶδες, ἡδ' Ἀμαραντῶν
 τηλόθεν ἐξ ἀρέων πεδίοιο τε Κιρκαίοιο
 Ἰθάσις δινήεις εὐρὴν ῥέον εἰς ἅλα βάλλει.
 κείνου νῆ' ἐλάοντες ἐπὶ προχοῇς ποταμοῖο
 πύργους εἰσόψεσθε Κυταιῶδες Αἰήταο.
 ἅλσος τε σκίσειν Ἄρης, τόθι κῶας ἐπ' ἄκρης

330

340

400

¹ After this line Brunek omitted the next two lines and since the lines they have not been counted.

² θαλάμους Merkel: πύργους MSS.

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terrible to behold, ever glares around, keeping watch over the fleece that is spread upon the top of an oak; neither by day nor by night does sweet sleep subdue his restless eyes."

Thus he spake, and straightway fear seized them as they heard. And for a long while they were struck with silence; till at last the hero, son of Aeson, spake, sore dismayed at their evil plight:

"O aged sire, now hast thou come to the end of the toils of our sea-journeying and hast told us the token, trusting to which we shall make our way to Pontus through the hateful rocks; but whether, when we have escaped them, we shall have a return back again to Hellas, this too would we gladly learn from thee. What shall I do, how shall I go over again such a long path through the sea, unskilled as I am, with unskilled comrades? And Colchian Aea lies at the edge of Pontus and of the world."

Thus he spake, and him the aged sire addressed in reply: "O son, when once thou has escaped through the deadly rocks, fear not; for a deity will be the guide from Aea by another track; and to Aea there will be guides enough. But, my friends, take thought of the artful aid of the Cyprian goddess. For on her depends the glorious issue of your venture. And further than this ask me not."

Thus spake Aegnor's son, and close at hand the twin sons of Thracian Boreas came dashing from the sky and set their swift feet upon the threshold; and the heroes rose up from their seats when they saw them present. And Zetes, still drawing hard breath after his toil, spake among the eager listeners, telling them how far they had driven the Harpies and how Iris prevented their slaying them, and how the

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goddess of her grace gave them pledges, and how those others in fear plunged into the vast cave of the Dictæan cliff. Then in the mansion all their comrades were joyful at the tidings and so was Phineus himself. And quickly Aeson's son, with good will exceeding, addressed him :

"Assuredly there was then, Phineus, some god who cared for thy bitter woe, and brought us hither from afar, that the sons of Boreas might aid thee ; and if too he should bring sight to thine eyes, verily I should rejoice, methinks, as much as if I were on my homeward way."

Thus he spake, but Phineus replied to him with downcast look : "Son of Aeson, that is past recall, nor is there any remedy hereafter, for blasted are my sightless eyes. But instead of that, may the god grant me death at once, and after death I shall take my share in perfect bliss."

Then they two returned answering speech, each to other, and soon in the midst of their converse early dawn appeared ; and round Phineus were gathered the neighbours who used to come thither aforetime day by day and constantly bring a portion of their food. To all alike, however poor he was that came, the aged man gave his oracles with good will, and freed many from their woes by his prophetic art ; wherefore they visited and tended him. And with them came Paruebius, who was dearest to him, and gladly did he perceive these strangers in the house. For long ere now the seer himself had said that a band of chieftains, sailing from Hellas to the city of Aetes, would make fast their bowsers to the Thynian land, and by Zeus' will would check the approach of the Harpies. The rest the old man

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pleased with words of wisdom and let them go ; Parachius only he bade remain there with the chiefs ; and straightway he sent him and bade him bring back the choicest of his sheep. And when he had left the hall Phœneus spake gently amid the throng of oarsmen :

" O my friends, not all men are arrogant, it seems, nor unmindful of benefits. Even as this man, loyal as he is, came hither to learn his fate. For when he laboured the most and toiled the most, then the needs of life, ever growing more and more, would waste him, and day after day ever dawned more wretched, nor was there any respite to his toil. But he was paying the sad penalty of his father's sin. For he when alone on the mountains, felling trees, once slighted the prayers of a Hamadryad, who wept and sought to soften him with plaintive words, not to cut down the stump of an oak tree coeval with herself, wherein for a long time she had lived continually ; but he in the arrogance of youth recklessly cut it down. So to him the nymph thereafter made her death a curse, to him and to his children. I indeed knew of the sin when he came ; and I bid him build an altar to the Thynian nymph, and offer on it an atoning sacrifice, with prayer to escape his father's fate. Here, ever since he escaped the god-sent doom, never has he forgotten or neglected me ; but sorely and against his will do I send him from my doors, so eager is he to remain with me in my affliction."

Thus spake Agenor's son ; and his friend straightway came near leading two sheep from the flock.

ἂν δὲ Βορήιοι υἱες ἐφημοσύνησι γέροντος.
 ὦκα δὲ κεκλόμενοι μαντήιον Ἀπόλλωνα
 ῥέξον ἐπ' ἐσχαρόφιν νέον ἡματος ἀνομένιοιο.
 κουρότεροι δ' ἐτάρων μενοεικέα δαῖτ' ἀλέγνουν.
 ἔνθ' εὖ δαισάμενοι, τοὶ μὲν παρὰ πείσμασι νηός,
 τοὶ δ' αὐτοῦ κατὰ δώματ' ἀολλέες εὐνάζοντο.
 ἦρι δ' ἐτήσιαι αὔραι ἐπέχραον, αἵτ' ἀνὰ πᾶσαν
 γαῖαν ὁμοῦς τμηθεὶς Διὸς πνεῖουσιν ἀνωγῇ.

Κυρτήν πεφασαί τις ἔλος πύρα Πηνειοῖο 500
 μῆλα νέμειν προτέροισι παρ' ἀνδράσιν· εὐαδε γὰρ
 οἱ

παρθενίη καὶ λέκτρον ἀκήρατον. αὐτὰρ Ἀπόλλων
 τήνγ' ἀνερειψάμενος ποταμῷ ἐπὶ ποιμαίνουσιν
 τηλόθεν Λίμονίης, χθονίαις παρακάτθετο νύμφαις,
 αἱ Λιβύην ἐνέμοντο παραὶ Μύρτωσιον αἶπος.
 ἔνθα δ' Ἀρισταῖον Φοῖβος τέκεν, ὃν καλέουσιν
 Ἀγρέα καὶ Νόμον πολυλήιοι Λίμονιης.
 τὴν μὲν γὰρ φιλότῃτι θεὸς ποιήσατο νύμφην
 αὐτοῦ μακραίωνα καὶ ἀγρότιν· οὐα δ' ἐνείκεν
 νηπίαχον Χείρωνος ὑπ' ἄντροισιν κομέεσθαι. 510
 τῷ καὶ ἀεξηθέτι θεῷ γάμον ἐμνήστευσαν
 Μοῦσαι, ἀεστορίην τε θεοπροπίας τ' ἐδίδαξαν
 καὶ μιν ἰὼν μῆλων θέσαν ἤρανον, ὅσσ' ἐνέμοντο
 ἄμ πεδίον Φθίης Ἀθαμάντιον ἄμφι τ' ἐρυμνὴν
 Ὀθρυν καὶ ποταμοῦ ἱερὸν ῥέον Ἀπιδανοῖο.
 ἦμος δ' οὐρανόθεν Μινωίδας ἐφλεγε νήσαντες
 Ζεῖριος, οὐδ' ἐπὶ δηρὸν ἔην ἄκος ἐνναέτησιν,
 τῆμος τόνγ' ἐκάλεσσαν ἐφημοσύναις Ἐκάτοιο
 λοιμοῦ ἀλεξητῆρα. λίπεν δ' ὄγε πατρός ἐφετμῇ
 Φθίην, ἐν δὲ Κεῖν κατενάσσατο, λαὸν ὠγείρας 520

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in Ceos, and gathered together the Parthasian people who are of the lineage of Lyncæon, and he built a great altar to Zeus Icmæus, and duly offered sacrifices upon the mountains to that star Sirius, and to Zeus son of Cronos himself. And on this account it is that Etesian winds from Zeus cool the land for forty days, and in Ceos even now the priests offer sacrifices before the rising of the Dog-star.

So the tale is told, but the chieftains stayed there by constraint, and every day the Thynians, doing pleasure to Phineus, sent them gifts beyond measure. And afterwards they raised an altar to the blessed twelve on the sea-beach opposite and laid offerings thereon and then entered their swift ship to row, nor did they forget to bear with them a trembling dove; but Euphemus seized her and brought her all quivering with fear, and they loosed the twin lawers from the land.

Nor did they start unmarked by Athena, but straightway swiftly she set her feet on a light cloud, which would waft her on, mighty though she was, and she swept on to the sea with friendly thoughts to the oarsmen. And as when one roveeth far from his native land, as we men often wander with enduring heart, nor is any land too distant but all ways are clear to his view, and he sees in mind his own home, and at once the way over sea and land seems plain, and swiftly thinking, now this way, now that, he strains with eager eyes; so swiftly the daughter of Zeus darted down and set her foot on the cheerless shore of Thynia.

Now when they reached the narrow strait of the winding passage, hemmed in on both sides by rugged cliffs, while an eddying current from below was

νῆα ῥόος, πολλὰν δὲ φόβῳ προτέρωσεν νέοντο,
ἤδη δὲ σφισι δούπος ἀρασσομένων πετρίων
νωλεμές οὐατ' ἔβαλλε, βόων δ' ἀλιμυρές ἀκταί,
δὴ τότε ἔπειθ' ὁ μὲν ὦρτο πελειάδα χειρὶ μεμαρ-
πῶς

Ἑλφημος πρόρρησ' ἐπιβήμεναι· οἱ δ' ὑπ' ἀνωγῇ
Τίφυος Ἀγυμίδαο θελήμονα ποιήσαντο
εἰρεσίην, ἴν' ἔπειτα διέκ πέτρας ἐλάσειαν,
κάρτεϊ ᾧ πίσυνοι. τὰς δ' αὐτίκα λοίσθιον ἄλλων
οἰγομένας ἀγκῶνα περιγυμνῶντες ἴδοντο. 500
σὺν δὲ σφιν χύτο θυμός· ὁ δ' αἴξαι πτερύγεσσι
Ἑλφημος πρόρρησ' πελειάδα· τοὶ δ' ἅμα πάντες
ῥῆσαν κεφαλὰς ἐσορώμενοι· ἡ δὲ δι' αὐτῶν
ἔπατο· ταὶ δ' ἄμυδις πάλιν ἀντίαι ἀλλήλησιν
ἄμφω ὁμοῦ ξυνοῦσαι ἐπέκτυπον. ὦρτο δὲ πολλὰ
ἄλμη ἀναβρασθεῖσα, νέφος ὥς· αὖτε δὲ πόντος
σμερδαλέον· πάντα δὲ περὶ μέγας ἔβρεμεν αἰθήρ.

Κοῖλαι δὲ σπήλυγγες ὑπὸ σπιλῖδας τρηχέας
κλυζούσης ἄλδος ἔνδαν ἐβόμβεον· ὑψόθι δ' ὄχθης
λευκὴ καχλαῖζοντος ἀνέπνευ κύματος ἄχρη. 510
νῆα δ' ἔπειτα πέριξ εἴλει ῥόος. ἄκρα δ' ἐκοψαν
οὐραῖα πτερὰ ταίγε πελειάδος· ἡ δ' ἀπόρουσεν
ἠσκηθῆς. ἐρέται δὲ μέγ' ἰαχὼν ἔβραχε δ' αὐτὸς
Τίφυς ἐρεσσέμεναι κρατερῶς. οἶγοντο γὰρ αὐτὶς
ἄνδιχα. τοὺς δ' ἐλάοντας ἔχεν τρόμος, ὄφρα μιν
αὐτῇ

πλημμυρὶς παλίνροσος ἀνερχομένη κατένεικεν
εἰσὼ πετρίων. τότε δ' αἰνότατον δέος εἶλεν
πάντας· ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς γὰρ ἀμήχανος ἦεν ὄλεθρος.
ἤδη δ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα διὰ πλατὺς εἶδετο Πόντος,
καὶ σφισιν ἠπροφύτως ἠνέδν μέγα κύμα πάροιθεν 520
κυρτόν, ἀποτμήγμ' σκοπιῇ ἴσον· οἱ δ' ἐσιδόντες

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about to leap down upon the ship's whole length and to overwhelm them. But Tiphys was quick to ease the ship as she laboured with the oars; and in all its mass the wave rolled away beneath the keel, and at the stern it raised Argo herself and drew her far away from the rocks; and high in air was she borne. But Euphemus strode among all his comrades and cried to them to bend to their oars with all their might; and they with a shout smote the water. And as far as the ship yielded to the rowers, twice as far did she leap back, and the oars were bent like curved bows as the heroes used their strength.

Then a vaulted billow rushed upon them, and the ship like a cylinder ran on the furious wave plunging through the hollow sea. And the eddying current held her between the clashing rocks; and on each side they shook and thundered; and the ship's timbers were held fast. Then Athena with her left hand thrust back one mighty rock and with her right pushed the ship through; and she, like a winged arrow, sped through the air. Nevertheless the rocks, ceaselessly clashing, shore off as she passed the extreme end of the stern-ornament. But Athena soared up to Olympus, when they had escaped unscathed. And the rocks in one spot at that moment were rooted fast for ever to each other, which thing had been destined by the blessed gods, when a man in his ship should have passed between them alive. And the heroes breathed again after their chilling fear, beholding at the same time the sky and the expanse of sea spreading far and wide. For they deemed that they were saved from Hades; and Tiphys first of all began to speak:

Ἐλπομαι αὐτῇ νηὶ τόγ' ἔμπεδον ἐξαλέασθαι
 ἡμέας· οὐδέ τις ἄλλος ἐπαίτιος, ὅσσαν Ἀθήνη,
 ἥ οἱ ἐνέπνευσεν θεῖον μένος, εὐτέ μιν Ἀργεῖοι
 γόμφουσιν συνάρασσε· θέμις δ' οὐκ ἔστιν ἀλῶναι.
 Αἰσυνίδη, τὴν δὲ τεοῦ βασιλῆος ἐφετμήν,
 εἴτε διῆκ πέτρας φυγέειν θεὸς ἡμῖν ὕπασσεν,
 μηκέτι δαίδιθι τοῖον· ἐπεὶ μετόπισθεν ἀέθλους
 εὐπαλῆας τελέεσθαι Ἀθηνορίδης φάτο Φινεύς·

Ἴπ' ῥ' ἄμα, καὶ προτέρωσσε παρὰ Βιβυνίδα
 γαῖαν

νηᾷ διῆκ πέλαγος σεῦεν μέσον. αὐτὰρ ὁ τότε
 μιλυχίοις ἐπέεσσι παραβλήδην προσέειπεν·
 Τίφν, τίη μοι ταῦτα παρηγορέεις ἀχέοντι;
 ἡμβροτον ἡσάμεν τε κακὴν καὶ ἀμύχανον αἶτλην.
 χροὴν γὰρ ἐφιεμένοιο καταντικρὺ Πελίᾳ
 αὐτίκ' ἀνήνασθαι τόνδε στόλον, εἰ καὶ ἔμελλον
 νηλεὲς μελεῖσθ' ἐκδαιόμενος θανέεσθαι·
 νῦν δὲ περισσὸν δεῖμα καὶ ἀτλήτους μελεδῶνας
 ἄγκειμαι, στυγέων μὲν ἄλλος κρύσσοντα κέλευθα
 νηὶ διαπλώειν, στυγέων δ', ὅτ' ἐπ' ἠπείροιο
 βαίνωμεν. πάντα γὰρ ἀνάρσιοι ἄνδρες ἔασιν.
 αἰεὶ δὲ στονόεσσιν ἐπ' ἡματι νύκτα φυλάσσω,
 ἐξότε τὸ πρῶτιστον ἐμὴν χάριν ἠγερέθεσθε,
 φραζόμενος τὰ ἕκαστα· σὺ δ' εὐμαρέως ἀγορεύεις
 οἷον ἔης ψυχῆς ἀλέγων ὑπερ· αὐτὰρ ἔγωγε
 εἶο μὲν οὐδ' ἥβαιδ' ἀτύξομαι· ἀμφὶ δὲ τοῖο
 καὶ τοῦ ὁμῶς, καὶ σείο, καὶ ἄλλων δαίδι' ἐταίρων
 εἰ μὴ ἐς Ἑλλάδα γαῖαν ἀπήμονας ὕμμε κομίσσω·

Ὡς φάτ' ἀριστήων πειρώμενος· οἱ δ' ὁμᾶδῃσιν
 θαρσαλέοις ἐπέεσσιν. ὁ δὲ φρένας ἐνδον ἰάνθη
 κεκλημέτων, καὶ ῥ' αὖτις ἱππρῆδην μετέειπεν·

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"It is my hope that we have safely escaped this peril—we, and the ship; and none other is the cause so much as Athena, who breathed into Argo divine strength when Argus knitted her together with bolts; and she may not be caught. Son of Aeson, no longer fear thou so much the heat of thy king, since a god hath granted us escape between the rocks; for Phineus, Agenor's son, said that our toils hereafter would be lightly accomplished."

He spake, and at once he sped the ship onward through the midst of the sea past the Bithynian coast. But Jason with gentle words addressed him in reply: "Tiphys, why dost thou comfort thus my grieving heart? I have erred and am distraught in wretched and helpless ruin. For I ought, when Pelias gave the command, to have straightway refused this quest to his face, yea, though I were doomed to die pitilessly, torn limb from limb, but now I am wrapped in excessive fear and cares unbearable, dreading to sail through the chilling paths of the sea, and dreading when we shall set foot on the mainland. For on every side are unkindly men. And ever when day is done I pass a night of groans from the time when ye first gathered together for my sake, while I take thought for all things; but thou talkest at thine ease, caring only for thine own life; while for myself I am dismayed not a whit; but I fear for this man and for that equally, and for thee, and for my other comrades, if I shall not bring you back safe to the land of Hellas."

Thus he spake, making trial of the chiefs; but they shouted loud with cheerful words. And his heart was warmed within him at their cry and again he spake outright among them:

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" My friends, in your valour my courage is quickened. Wherefore now, even though I should take my way through the gulfs of Hades, no more shall I let fear seize upon me, since ye are steadfast amid cruel terrors. But now that we have sailed out from the striking rocks, I trow that never hereafter will there be another such fearful thing, if indeed we go on our way following the counsel of Phineus."

Thus he spake, and straightway they ceased from such words and gave unwearying labour to the oar; and quickly they passed by the swiftly flowing river Rhebus and the peak of Colone, and soon thereafter the Black headland, and near it the mouth of the river Phyllis, where aforetime Dipsacus received in his home the son of Athamas, when with his man he was flying from the city of Orchomenus; and Dipsacus was the son of a meadow-symph, nor was insolence his delight, but contented by his father's stream he dwelt with his mother, pasturing his flocks by the shore. And quickly they sighted and sailed past his shrine and the broad banks of the river and the plain, and deep-flowing Calpe, and all the windless night and the day they bent to their tireless oars. And even as ploughing oxen toil as they cleave the moist earth, and sweat streams in abundance from flank and neck; and from beneath the yoke their eyes roll askance, while the breath ever rushes from their mouths in hot gasps; and all day long they toil, planting their hoofs deep in the ground; like them the heroes kept dragging their oars through the sea.

Now when divine light has not yet come nor is it utter darkness, but a faint glimmer has spread over the night, the time when men wake and call it

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twilight, at that hour they ran into the harbour of the desert island Thynias and, spent by weary toil, mounted the shore. And to them the son of Leto, as he passed from Lycia far away to the countless folk of the Hyperboreans, appeared; and about his cheeks on both sides his golden locks flowed in clusters as he moved; in his left hand he held a silver bow, and on his back was slung a quiver hanging from his shoulders; and beneath his feet all the island quaked, and the waves surged high on the beach. Helpless amazement seized them as they looked; and no one dared to gaze face to face into the fair eyes of the god. And they stood with heads bowed to the ground; but he, far off, passed on to the sea through the air; and at length Orpheus spake as follows, addressing the chiefs:

"Come, let us call this island the sacred isle of Apollo of the Dawn since he has appeared to all, passing by at dawn; and we will offer such sacrifices as we can, building an altar on the shore; and if hereafter he shall grant us a safe return to the Haemonian land, then will we lay on his altar the thighs of horned goats. And now I bid you propitiate him with the steam of sacrifice and libations. Be gracious, O king, be gracious in thy appearing."

Thus he spake, and they straightway built up an altar with shingle; and over the island they wandered, seeking if haply they could get a glimpse of a fawn or a wild goat, that often seek their pasture in the deep wood. And for them Leto's son provided a quarry; and with pious rites they wrapped in fat the thigh bones of them all and burnt them on the sacred altar, celebrating Apollo, Lord of Dawn. And round the burning sacrifice they set up a broad

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dancing-ring, singing, "All hail, fair god of healing, Phoebus, all hail," and with them Oenagrus' goodly son began a clear lay on his Bistonian lyre; how once beneath the rocky ridge of Parnassus he slew with his bow the monster Delphyne, he, still young and beardless, still rejoicing in his long tresses. Mayst thou be gracious! Ever, O king, be thy locks unshorn, ever unravaged; for so is it right. And none but Leto, daughter of Coeus, strokes them with her dear hands. And often the Corycian nymphs, daughters of Pleistus, took up the cheering strain crying "Healer"; hence arose this lovely refrain of the hymn to Phoebus.

Now when they had celebrated him with dance and song they took an oath with holy libations, that they would ever help each other with concord of heart, touching the sacrifice as they swore; and even now there stands there a temple to gracious Concord, which the heroes themselves reared, paying honour at that time to the glorious goddess.

Now when the third morning came, with a fresh west wind they left the lofty island. Next, on the opposite side they saw and passed the mouth of the river Sangarius and the fertile land of the Mariandyni, and the stream of Lycus and the Anthemocisian lake; and beneath the breeze the ropes and all the tackling quivered as they sped onward. During the night the wind ceased and at dawn they gladly reached the haven of the Acherusian headland. It rises aloft with steep cliffs, looking towards the Bithynian sea; and beneath its smooth rocks, ever washed by the sea, stand rooted firm; and round them the wave rolls and thunders loud, but above, wide-spreading plane trees

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grow on the topmost point. And from it towards the land a hollow glen slopes gradually away, where there is a cave of Hades overarched by wood and rocks. From here an icy breath, unceasingly issuing from the chill recess, ever forms a glistening rime which melts again beneath the midday sun. And never does silence hold that grim headland, but there is a continual murmur from the sounding sea and the leaves that quiver in the winds from the cave. And here is the outfall of the river Acheron which hursts its way through the headland and falls into the Eastern sea, and a hollow ravine brings it down from above. In after times the Nissean Megarians named it *Soönautes*¹ when they were about to settle in the land of the Mariandyni. For indeed the river saved them with their ships when they were caught in a violent tempest. By this way the heroes took the ship through² the Acheronian headland and came to land over against it as the wind had just ceased.

Not long had they come unmarked by Lycus, the lord of that land, and the Mariandyni—they, the slayers of Amycus, according to the report which the people heard before; but for that very deed they even made a league with the heroes. And Polydeuces himself they welcomed as a god, flocking from every side, since for a long time had they been warring against the arrogant Bebrycians. And so they went up all together into the city, and all that day with friendly feelings made ready a feast within the palace of Lycus and gladdened their souls with converse. Acson's son told him the lineage and

¹ i.e. Saviour of sailors.

² i.e. through the ravine that divides the headland.

σφαιτέρων μυθεῖθ' ἐτέρων, Πελλιά τ' ἐφοτμάς,
 ἥδ' ὥς Λημνυίδεσσιν ἐπεξευνοῦντο γυναιξίν,
 ὅσσα τε Κύζικον ἀμφὶ Δολιχόνην ἐτέλεσαν·
 Μυσίδα δ' ὥς ἀφίκοντο Κίον θ', ὅθι κάλλιπον ἦρω
 Ἑρακλέην ἀέκοντι νόω, Γλαύκοιό τε βάξιν
 πέφραδε, καὶ Βέβρυκας ὅπως Ἀμυκόν τ' ἐδάξαν,
 καὶ Φινῆος εἶπε θεοπροπίας τε δύνῃ τε,
 ἥδ' ὥς Κυανέας πέτρας φύγον, ὥς τ' ἀβόλησαν 770
 Λητοῖδῃ κατὰ νῆσον. ὁ δ' ἐξείης ἐνέποντος
 θέλγεται ἀκουῇ θυμόν· ἄχος δ' ἔλεν Ἑρακλεῖ
 λευπομένῳ, καὶ τοῖον ἔπος πάντεσσι μετηύδα·

ὦ φίλοι, οἷον φωτὸς ἀποπλαγχθέντες ἀρωγῆς
 πείρετ' ἐς Λιήτην τόσσον πλόον. εὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ μιν
 Δασκύνου ἐν μεγάροισι καταυτόθι πατρός ἐμοῖο
 οἶδ' ἐσιδών, ὅτε δεῦρο δι' Ἀσίδος ἡπείροιο
 πεζὸς ἔβη ζωστήρα φιλοπτολέμοιο κομίζων
 Ἱππολύτης· ἐμὲ δ' εὔρε νέον χροοῖοντα ἰούλονα.
 ἔνθα δ' ἐπὶ Πριόλαο κασσιγνήτοιο θανόντος 780
 ἡμετέρου Μυσοῖσιν ὑπ' ἀνδράσιν, ὅντινα λαὸς
 οἰκτίστοις ἐλέγοισιν ὀδύρεται ἐξέτι κείνου,
 ἀθλεύων Τιτίην ἀπεκαίνυτο πυγμαχέοντα
 καρτερόν, ὃς πάντεσσι μετέπρεπεν ἡϊθέοισιν
 εἰδὸς τ' ἡδὲ βίην· χαρμίδες δέ οἱ ἦλας· ὀδόντας.
 αὐτὰρ ὁμοῦ Μυσοῖσιν ἐμῷ ὑπὸ πατρὶ δάμασσει
 καὶ Φρύγας,¹ οἳ ναίουσιν ὁμώλακας ἡμιν ἡρούρας,
 φῦλά τε Βιθυνῶν ἀντὶ κτεατίσσατο γαίῃ,
 ἔσθ' ἐπὶ Ῥηβαίου προχοᾶς σκόπελόν τε Κολώνης·
 Παφλαγόνες τ' ἐπὶ τοῖς Πελοπήιοι εἰκαθον αὐτως, 790

¹ καὶ Φρύγαι] Μήδωναι is given in the scholia as a variant.

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name of each of his comrades and the behests of Pallas, and how they were welcomed by the Lemnian women, and all that they did at Dolionian Cysicus; and how they reached the Mysian land and Clus, where, sore against their will, they left behind the hero Hercules, and he told the saying of Glaucus, and how they slew the Bebrycians and Amycus, and he told of the prophecies and affliction of Phineus, and how they escaped the Cynaeæ rocks, and how they met with Leto's son at the island. And as he told all, Lyons was charmed in soul with listening; and he grieved for Hercules left behind, and spake as follows among them all:

"O friends, what a man he was from whose help ye have fallen away, as ye cleave your long path to Aetes; for well do I know that I saw him here in the halls of Dascylus my father, when he came hither on foot through the land of Asia bringing the girdle of warlike Hippolyte; and me he found with the down just growing on my cheeks. And here, when my brother Priolas was slain by the Mysians—my brother, whom ever since the people lament with most piteous dirges—he entered the lists with Titias in boxing and slew him, mighty Titias, who surpassed all the youths in beauty and strength; and he dashed his teeth to the ground. Together with the Mysians he subdued beneath my father's sway the Phrygians also, who inhabit the lands next to us, and he made his own the tribes of the Bithynians and their land, as far as the mouth of Rêbas and the peak of Colone; and besides them the Paphlagonians of Pelops yielded just as they were,

ὅσσους Βιλλαίοιο μέλαν περιάγνυται ὕδωρ.
 ἀλλὰ με νῦν Βέβρυκες ὑπερβασίῃ τ' Ἀμύκοιο
 τηλόθι καιετόντος, ἐνόσφισαν, Ἡρακλῆος,
 δὴν ἀποτεμνόμενοι γαίης ἄλκις, ὅφρ' ἐβάλουντο
 οὐρα βαθυρρείοντος ὑφ' εἰαμεναῖς Ὑπίοιο.
 ἔμπης δ' ἐξ ὑμέων ἔδοσαν τίσιν· οὐδέ ἔφημι
 ἤματι τῷδ' ἀέκητι θεῶν ἐπελάσσαι ἄρῃα,
 Τυνδαρίδην Βέβρυξιν, ὅτ' ἀνέρα κείνον ἔπεφνεν.
 τῷ νῦν ἦντιν' ἐγὼ τίσαι χάριν ἄρκιός εἰμι,
 τίσω προφρονέως. ἥ γὰρ θέμις ἡπεδανοῖσιν
 ἀνδράσιν, εἴτ' ἄρξωσιν ἀρείονες ἄλλοι ὀφέλλειν.
 ξυνῇ μὲν πάντεσσιν ὁμόστολον ὕμνῳ ἔπεςθαι
 Δάσκυλον ὀτρυνέω, ἐμὸν νύκτα τοῖο δ' ἰόντος,
 ἥ τ' ἂν ἐυξείνοισι διέξ' ἄλως ἀντιόωτε
 ἀνδράσιν, ὅφρ' αὐτοῖο ποτὶ στόμα θερμόωδοντος.
 νόσφι δὲ Τυνδαρίδαις Ἀχερουσίδος ὑψόθεν ἄκρης
 εἶσομαι ἱερὸν αἰπὺ· τὸ μὲν μάλα τηλόθι πάντες
 ναυτίλοι ἅμ' πέλαγος θηεύμενοι ἱλαξονται
 καὶ κέ σφιν μετέπειτα πρὸ ἄσπερος, οἷα θεοῖσιν,
 πίονας εὐαρότοιο γῆρας πεδίοιο ταμοίμην·

800

810

Ἦς τότε μὲν δαῖτ' ἁμφὶ πανήμεροι ἐψιόωντο.
 ἥρ' ἔγε μὲν ἐπὶ νῆα κατήισαν ἐγκονέοντες·
 καὶ δ' αὐτὸς σὺν τοῖσι Λύκος κίε, μυρὶ ὀπάσσας
 δῶρα φέρειν ἅμα δ' οὐα δόμων ἐκπεμπτε νέεσθαι.
 Ἦνθα δ' Ἀβαντιάδην πεπρωμένην ἤλασε μοῖρα
 Ἰδμονα, μαντοσύνησι κεκασμένον· ἀλλὰ μιν οὔτι
 μαντοσύναι ἐσάωσαν, ἐπεὶ χρεὼ ἦγε δαμῆναι.
 κεῖτο γὰρ εἰαμενῇ δονακώδεος ἐν ποταμοῖο
 ψυχόμενος λάχοντας τε καὶ ἄσπετον ἱλὺν νηδὺν
 κύπριος ἀργιόδων, ὅλοον τέρας, ὃν ῥα καὶ αὐταὶ

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even all those round whom the dark water of Billaens breaks. But now the Bebrycians and the insolence of Amycus have robbed me, since Hercules dwells far away, for they have long been cutting off huge pieces of my land until they have set their bounds at the meadows of deep-flowing Hypius. Nevertheless, by your hands have they paid the penalty; and it was not without the will of heaven, I trow, that he brought war on the Bebrycians this day—he, the son of Tyndareus, when he slew that champion. Wherefore whatever requital I am now able to pay, gladly will I pay it, for that is the rule for weaker men when the stronger begin to help them. So with you all, and in your company, I bid Dascylus my son follow; and if he goes, you will find all men friendly that ye meet on your way through the sea even to the mouth of the river Thermodon. And besides that, to the sons of Tyndareus will I raise a lofty temple on the Acherusian height, which all sailors shall mark far across the sea and shall reverence; and hereafter for them will I set apart outside the city, as for gods, some fertile fields of the well-tilled plain."

Thus all day long they revelled at the banquet. But at dawn they hied down to the ship in haste; and with them went Lycus himself, when he had given them countless gifts to bear away; and with them he sent forth his son from his house.

And here his destined fate smote Idmon, son of Atlas, skilled in soothsaying; but not at all did his soothsaying save him, for necessity drew him on to death. For in the mead of the reedy river there lay, cooling his flanks and huge belly in the mud, a white-tusked bear, a deadly monster, whom even the

νύμφαι ἐλειονόμοι ὑπεδείδισαν· οὐδέ τις ἀνδρῶν
 ἦϊδεν· ὅλος δὲ κατὰ πλατὺ βόσκετο τίφος.
 αὐτὰρ ὃγ' ἰλύνεντος ἀνὰ θρῆσμοὺς ποταμοῖο
 ἦσσετ' Ἀβαντιάδης· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔκπαθεν ἀφράστοιο
 ὕψι μίλ' ἐκ δονάκων ἀνεπάλμενος ἤλασε μηρὸν
 αἰγῶν, μέσσας δὲ σὺν ὀστέφῳ ἵνας ἔκερσεν.
 ὅξυ δ' ὄγε κλίγξας οὐδὲ πέσεν· αἶ δὲ τυπέντος
 ἄθροοι ἀντιάχυσαν· ὀρέξατο δ' αἰψ' ὀλοοῖο
 Ἰηλεὺς αἰγανὴρ φύγαδ' εἰς ἔλος ὀρμηθέντος
 καπρίου· ἔσσυτο δ' αὖτις ἐναντίος· ἀλλὰ μιν Ἰῶας 830
 οὔτασε, βεβρυχὸς δὲ θοῇ περικύπτεισε δουρί.
 καὶ τὸν μὲν χαμάδις λίπον αὐτόθι πεπτηῶτα·
 τὸν δ' ἔταροι ἐπὶ νῆα φέρον ψυχορραγέοντα,
 ἀχνύμενοι, χεῖραςσι δ' ἑῶν ἐνικάτθαν' ἐταίρων.
 Ἐνθα δὲ ναυτιλίας μὲν ἐρητύοντα μέλεισθαι,
 ἅμφ' δὲ κηδεῖν νέκυος μένον ἀσχαλῶντες,
 ἤματα δὲ τρία πάντα γόων· ἑτέρῃ δέ μιν ἤδη
 τύρχουν μεγαλωστί· συνεκτερέιζε δὲ λαὸς
 αὐτῷ ὁμοῦ βασιλῆι Λύκῃ· παρὰ δ' ἄσπετα μῆλα
 ἢ θέμις οἰχομένοισι, ταφήναι λαιματομήσαν. 840
 καὶ δὴ τοι κέχνται τοῦδ' ἀνέρος ἐν χθονὶ κείνῃ
 τύμβος· σῆμα δ' ἔπεστι καὶ ὀψιγάνοισιν ἰδέσθαι,
 πηίου ἐκ κοτίνιοι φάλαγξ· θαλίη δὲ γε φύλλοις
 ἄκρης τυτθὸν ἔνερθ' Ἀχερουσίδος· εἰ δέ με καὶ τὸ
 χρειῶ ἀπηλεγέως Μουσέων ὑπο γηρύσασθαι,
 τόνδε πυλισσοῦχον διεπέφραδε Βαιώτοϊσιν
 Νισαίοισι γε Φοῖβος ἐπιρρήδην ἰλάεσθαι,
 ἅμφ' δὲ τήνγε φάλαγγα παλαιγενέος κοτίνιοι

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nymphs of the marsh dreaded, and no man knew it ; but all alone he was feeding in the wide fen. But the son of Abas was passing along the raised banks of the river, and the bear from some unseen lair leapt out of the reed-bed, and charging gashed his thigh and severed in twain the sinews and the bone. And with a sharp cry the hero fell to the ground ; and as he was struck his comrades flocked together with answering cry. And quickly Peleus with his hunting spear aimed at the murderous bear as he fled back into the fen ; and again he turned and charged ; but Idas wounded him, and with a roar he fell impaled upon the sharp spear. And the bear they left on the ground just as he had fallen there ; but Idmon, now at the last gasp, his comrades bore to the ship in sorrow of heart, and he died in his comrades' arms.

And here they stayed from taking thought for their voyaging and abode in grief for the burial of their dead friend. And for three whole days they lamented ; and on the next they buried him with full honours, and the people and King Lynceus himself took part in the funeral rites ; and, as is the due of the departed, they slaughtered countless sheep at his tomb. And so a barrow to this hero was raised in that land, and there stands a token for men of later days to see, the trunk of a wild olive tree, such as ships are built of ; and it flourishes with its green leaves a little below the Acherusian headland. And if at the bidding of the Muses I must tell this tale outright, Phoebus strictly commanded the Boeotians and Nisaeans to worship him as guardian of their city, and to build their city round the trunk of the ancient wild olive ; but they,

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Instead of the god-fearing Aetolid Idmon, at this day honour Agamemnor.

Who was the next that died? For then a second time the heroes heaped up a barrow for a comrade dead. For still are to be seen two monuments of those heroes. The tale goes that Tiphys son of Hagnias died; nor was it his destiny thereafter to sail any further. But him there on the spot a short sickness laid to rest far from his native land, when the company had paid due honours to the dead son of Abus. And at the cruel wee they were seized with unbearable grief. For when with due honours they had buried him also hard by the seer, they cast themselves down in helplessness on the sea-shore silently, closely wrapped up, and took no thought for meat or drink; and their spirit drooped in grief, for all hope of return was gone. And in their sorrow they would have stayed from going further had not Hera kindled exceeding courage in Ancaeus, whom near the waters of bubbling Astypalaea bore to Poseidon; for especially was he skilled in steering and eagerly did he address Peleus:

"Son of Aeneas, is it well for us to give up our toils and linger on in a strange land? Not so much for my prowess in war did Jason take me with him in quest of the fleece, for I won Parthenia, as for my knowledge of ships. Wherefore, I pray, let there be no fear for the ship. And so there are here other men of skill, of whom none will harm our voyaging, whomsoever we set at the helm. But quickly tell forth all this and boldly urge them to call to mind their task."

Thus he spake; and Peleus' soul was stirred with gladness, and straightway he spake in the midst of

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all: "My friends, why do we thus cherish a bootless grief like this? For those two have perished by the fate they have met with; but among our host are steersmen yet, and many a one. Wherefore let us not delay our attempt, but rouse yourselves to the work and cast away your griefs."

And him in reply Aeson's son addressed with helpless words: "Son of Aææus, where are these steersmen of thine? For those whom we once deemed to be men of skill, they even more than I are bowed with vexation of heart. Wherefore I forbode an evil doom for us even as for the dead, if it shall be our lot neither to reach the city of fell Aæetes, nor ever again to pass beyond the clashing rocks to the land of Hellas, but a wretched fate will enshroud us here ingloriously till we grow old for naught."

Thus he spoke, but Anceæus quickly undertook to guide the swift ship; for he was stirred by the impulse of the goddess. And after him Erginus and Nauplius and Euphemus started up, eager to steer. But the others held them back, and many of his comrades granted it to Anceæus.

So on the twelfth day they went aboard at dawn, for a strong breeze of westerly wind was blowing. And quickly with the oars they passed out through the river Acheron and, trusting to the wind, shook out their sails, and with canvas spread far and wide they were cleaving their passage through the waves in fair weather. And soon they passed the outfall of the river Callichorus, where, as the tale goes, the Nysean son of Zeus, when he had left the tribes of the Indians and came to dwell at Thebes, held revels and arrayed dances in front of a cave, wherein he passed unsmiting sacred nights, from which time

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the neighbours call the river by the name of Callichorus¹ and the cave Aulion.²

Next they beheld the barrow of Sthenelus, Actor's son, who on his way back from the valorous war against the Amazons—for he had been the comrade of Heracles—was struck by an arrow and died there upon the sea-beach. And for a time they went no farther, for Persephone herself sent forth the spirit of Actor's son which craved with many tears to behold men like himself, even for a moment. And mounting on the edge of the barrow he gazed upon the ship, such as he was when he went to war; and round his head a fair helm with four peaks gleamed with its blood-red crest. And again he entered the vast gloom; and they looked and marvelled; and Mopsus, son of Amrysus, with word of prophecy urged them to land and propitiate him with libations. Quickly they drew in sail and threw out hawsers, and on the strand paid honour to the tomb of Sthenelus, and poured out drink offerings to him and sacrificed sheep as victims. And besides the drink offerings they built an altar to Apollo, saviour of ships, and burnt thigh bones; and Orpheus dedicated his lyre; whence the place has the name of Lyræ.

And straightway they went aboard as the wind blew strong; and they drew the sail down, and made it taut to both sheets; then Argo was borne over the sea swiftly, even as a hawk soaring high through the air commits to the breeze its outspread wings and is borne on swiftly, nor swerves in its flight, poising in the clear sky with quiet pinions. And lo, they passed by the stream of Puthenius as it flows into the sea, a

¹ i.e. river of fair dances.

² i.e. the bedchamber.

πρηνυτάτου ποταμοῦ, παρεμέτρεον, ᾧ ἐνὶ κούρῃ
 Λητωίᾳ, ἄγρηθεν ὅτ' οὐρανὸν εἰσαναβαίῃη,
 δὴν δέρας ἱμερτοῖσιν ἀναψύχει ὑδάτεσσιν.
 νυκτὶ δ' ἔπειτ' ἄλληκτον ἐπιπροτέρωσσε θεόντες
 Σήρσαμον αἰπεινοὺς τε παρεξένοντ' Ἐρυθίνους,
 Κρωβίαλον, Κρώμινά τε καὶ ὀλύντα Κύτωρον.
 ἐνθεν δ' αὖτε Κάραμβιν ἄμ' ἡελίοιο βολῇσιν
 γνύμψαντες παρὰ πούλυν ἔπειτ' ἤλαννον ἐρετμοῖς
 λίγαλόν πρόπαν ἡμῶν ὁμῶς καὶ ἐπ' ἡματι νύκτα.

Αὐτίκα δ' Ἀσσυρίης ἐπέβαν χθονός, ἐνθα
 Σινώπην,

θυγατέρ' Ἀσωπείῳ, καθίσσατο, καὶ οἱ ὕπασσεν
 παρθενίην Ζεὺς αὐτός, ὑποσχεσίῃσι δολωθεῖς.
 δὴ γὰρ ὁ μὲν φιλότῃτος ἐέλβετο· νεῦσε δ' ὅγ' αὐτῇ
 δωσέμεναι, ὃ κεν ᾖσι μετὰ φρεσὶν ἰθύσειεν.

ἢ δέ ἐ παρθενίην ᾗτήσατο κερδοσύνησιν.
 ὥς δέ καὶ Ἀπόλλωνα παρήπαφεν εὐνηθῆναι
 ἰέμενον, ποταμόν τ' ἐπὶ τοῖς Ἄλυν· οὐδὲ μὲν
 ἀνδρῶν

τῆνγε τις ἱμερτῆσιν ἐν ἀγκοίνῃσι δάμασσαν.
 ἐνθα δὲ Τρικκαίοιο ἄγαυοῦ Δημιόχοιο
 υἱες, Δηιλέων τε καὶ Ἀντόλυκος Φλογίος τε
 τῆμος ἔθ', Ἡρακλῆος ἀποπλαγχθέντες, ἔναιον
 οἷον τόθ', ὥς ἐνόησαν ἀριστήων στόλον ἀνδρῶν,
 σφῶς αὐτοὺς νημερτὲς ἐπέφραδον ἀντιόσαντες·
 αὐδ' ἔτι μιμνῶζεν θέλον ἔμπεδον, ἀλλ' ἐνὶ νηί,
 ἀργέστας παρᾶσσαν ἐπιπνείοντος, ἔβησαν.
 τοῖσι δ' ὁμοῦ μετέπειτα θεῇ πεφορημένοι αὔρη
 λεῖπον Ἄλυν ποταμόν, λεῖπον δ' ἀγχίρροον Ἴριν,
 ἤδ' ἐ καὶ Ἀσσυρίης πρόχυσιν χθονός· ἡματι δ' αὐτῷ
 γνύμψαν Ἀμαζονίδων ἑκάθεν λιμενήοχον ἄκρην.

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most gentle river, where the maid, daughter of Leto, when she mounts to heaven after the chase, cools her limbs in its much-desired waters. Then they sped onward in the night without ceasing, and passed Sesamus and lofty Erythini, Crobiatus, Cromna and woolly Cytorus. Next they swept round Carambis at the rising of the sun, and plied the oars past endless Aegialus, all day and on through the night.

And straightway they landed on the Assyrian shore where Zeus himself gave a name to Sinope, daughter of Asopus, and granted her virginity, beguiled by his own promises. For he longed for her love, and he promised to grant her whatever her heart's desire might be. And she in her craftiness asked of him virginity. And in like manner she deceived Apollo too who longed to wed her, and besides them the river Halys, and no man ever subdued her in love's embrace. And there the sons of noble Deimachus of Tricca were still dwelling, Deileon, Autolycus and Phlogius, since the day when they wandered far away from Hemeles; and they, when they marked the army of chieftains, went to meet them and declared in truth who they were; and they wished to remain there no longer, but as soon as Argestes¹ blew went on ship-board. And so with them, borne along by the swift breeze, the heroes left behind the river Halys, and left behind Iris that flows hard by, and the delta-land of Assyria; and on the same day they rounded the distant headland of the Amazons that guards their harbour.

¹ The north-west wind.

ἔνθα ποτὲ προμολοῦσαν Ἀρητιάδα Μελανίππην
 ἥρως Ἡρακλῆς ἐλοχῆσατο, καὶ οἱ ἄποινα
 Ἰππολύτη ζωστήρα παναίολον ἐγγυάλιξεν
 ἀμφὶ κασουργήτης ὃ δ' ὑπὸ ἥμονα πέμψεν ὀπίσσω.
 τῆς οὖν ἐν κόλπῳ, προχοαῖς ἐπὶ Θερμώδοντος, 970
 κέλσαν, ἐπεὶ καὶ πόντος ὀρίνετο νισσομένοισιν.
 τῷ δ' αὖτις ποταμῶν ἐναλγκίως, οὐδὲ ρέεθρα
 τόσσ' ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἵησι παρέξ ἔθεν ἀνδιχα βάλλων.
 τετράκις εἰς ἑκατὸν δεύοιτό κεν, εἴ τις ἕκαστα
 πεμπάζου· μία δ' οἷα ἐτήτυμος ἐπλετο πηγή.
 ἢ μὲν τ' ἐξ ὀρέων καταλίσσεται ἠπειρόνδε
 ὑψηλῶν, ἃ τε φασὶν Ἀμαζόνια κλείεσθαι.
 ἐνθεν δ' αἰπυτέρην ἐπικίδνυται ἐνδοθι γαῖαν
 ἀντικρύν τῷ καὶ οἱ ἐπίστροφοί εἰσι κέλευθοι·
 αἰεὶ δ' ἄλλυδις ἄλλη, ὅπῃ κύρσειε μάλιστα 980
 ἠπείρου χθαμαλῆς, εἰλίσσεται ἢ μὲν ἄπωθεν,
 ἢ δὲ πέλας· πολέες δὲ πόροι νώνημοι ἔασιν,
 ὅπῃ ὑπεξαφύονται ὃ δ' ἀμφαδὸν ἄμμιγα παύροις
 Πόντον ἐς Ἄξεινον κυρτὴν ὑπερεύγεται ἄχυν.¹
 καὶ νῦ κε δηθύνοντες Ἀμαζονίδεσσιν ἔμιξαν
 ὁσμήνην, καὶ δ' οὐ κεν ἀναιματὶ γ' ἐρίδηναν—
 οὐ γὰρ Ἀμαζονίδες μάλ' ἐπιήτιδες, οὐδὲ θέμιστας
 τίουσσαι πεδίοιο Δοιάντιον ἀμφενέμοντο·
 ἀλλ' ὕβρις στοναέσσα καὶ Ἄρεος ἔργα μεμῆλει·
 δὴ γὰρ καὶ γενεὴν ἔσαν Ἄρεος Ἀρμονίης τε 990
 νύμφης, ἣν Ἀρηϊ φιλοπτολέμους τέκε κούρας,
 ἄλσεος Ἀκμονίοιο κατὰ πτόχας εὐνηθείσα—
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ἐκ Διόθεν πνοιαί πάλιν ἀργεστῷο
 ἤλυθον· οἱ δ' ἀνέμῳ περιηγέα κάλλιπον ἀκτὴν,
 ἔνθα Θερμίσκυρειαὶ Ἀμαζόνες ὠπλίζοντο.

¹ ἄχυν· Βυζαντινὰ : ἄρηον MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK II

Here once when Melanippe, daughter of Ares, had gone forth, the hero Heracles caught her by ambuscade and Hippolyte gave him her glistening girdle as her sister's ransom, and he sent away his captive unharmed. In the bay of this headland, at the outfall of Thermodon, they ran ashore, for the sea was rough for their voyage. No river is like this, and none sends forth from itself such mighty streams over the land. If a man should count every one he would lack but four of a hundred, but the real spring is only one. This flows down to the plain from lofty mountains, which, men say, are called the Amazonian mountains. Thence it spreads inland over a hilly country straight forward; wherefrom its streams go whirling on, and they roll on, this way and that ever more, wherever best they can reach the lower ground, one at a distance and another near at hand; and many streams are swallowed up in the sand and are without a name; but, mingled with a few, the main stream openly bursts with its arching crest of foam into the Inhospitable Pontus. And they would have tarried there and have closed in battle with the Amazons, and would have fought not without bloodshed—for the Amazons were not gentle foes and regarded not justice, those dwellers on the Doeantian plain; but grievous insolence and the works of Ares were all their care; for by race they were the daughters of Ares and the nymph Harmonia, who bare to Ares war-loving minds, wedded to him in the glens of the Arcadian wood—had not the breezes of Argestes come again from Zeus; and with the wind they left the rounded beach, where the Themiscyrean Amazons

οὐ γὰρ ὁμπεγρέες μίαν ἄμ πόλιν, ἀλλ' ἀνὰ γαῖαν
 κεκριμέναι κατὰ φύλα διέτριχα ναιετάσκον
 νόσφι μὲν αἰδ' αὐταί, τῇσιν τότε κοιρανέσκον
 Ἴππολύτῃ, νόσφι δὲ Λυκάστει ἀμφενέσκοντο,
 νόσφι δ' ἰκοντοβόλοι Χαδῆσιν. ἤματι δ' ἄλλῃ 1000
 νυκτί τ' ἐπιπλομένη Χαλύβων παρὰ γαῖαν ἴκοντο.

Τοῖσι μὲν οὔτε βοῶν ἄροτος μέλει, οὔτε τις ἄλλη
 φυταλιὴ καρποῦ μελίφρονος· οὐδὲ μὲν οὔγε
 ποιμένας ἐρσήεντι νομῇ ἐν ποιμαίνουσιν,
 ἀλλὰ σιδηροφόρον στυφελὴν χθόνα γατομόροντες
 ὄνων ἀμείβονται βιοτήσιον, οὐδέ ποτέ σφιν
 ἥως ἀντέλλει καμύτων ἄτερ, ἀλλὰ κελαινῇ
 λιγυρῇ καὶ καπνῇ κίματον βαρὺν ὀτλεύουσιν.

Τοὺς δὲ μετ' αὐτίκ' ἔπειτα Γενηταίου Διὸς ἄκρην
 γνῶνψαντες σώοντο παρὲξ Τιβαρημίδα γαῖαν. 1010
 εὐθ' ἐπεὶ ἄρ κε τέκονται ὑπ' ἀνδράσι τέκνα
 γυναῖκες,

αὐτοὶ μὲν στενάχουσιν ἐνὶ λεχέεσσι πεσόντες,
 κρύατα δησόμενοι· ταὶ δ' εὖ κομέουσιν ἐδωλῇ
 ἀνέρας, ἡδὲ λοετρὰ λεχῶνα τοῖσι πένονται.

Ἴρὸν δ' αὖτ' ἐπὶ τοῖσιν ὄρος καὶ γαῖαν ἄμειβον,
 ἥ ἐν Μοσσύνικοι ἂν' οὔρεα ναιετάουσιν
 μόσσυνας, καὶ δ' αὐτοὶ ἐπιώνυμοι ἐνθεν ἔασιν,
 ἀλλοίῃ δὲ δίκη καὶ θέσμια τοῖσι τέτυκται.
 ὅσσα μὲν ἀμφαδίην ῥέζειν θέμις, ἢ ἐνὶ δῆμῳ,
 ἢ ἀγορῇ, τάδε πάντα δόμοις ἐν μηχανύονται 1020
 ὅσα δ' ἐνὶ μεγάροις πεπονήμεθα, κείνα θύραζε
 ἀψευγέως μέσσουσιν ἐνὶ ῥέζουσιν ἀγναιῖς.
 οὐδ' εὐνῆς αἰδώς ἐπιδήμιος, ἀλλά, σῶες ὡς
 φορβαῖδες, οὐδ' ἡβαιὼν ἀτυζόμενοι παρεόντας,
 μίσγονται χαμίδης ξυνῇ φιλότῃτι γυναικῶν.

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earth they lie with the women. Their king sits in the loftiest hut and dispenses upright judgments to the multitude, poor wretch ! For if haply he err at all in his decrees, for that day they keep him shut up in starvation.

They passed them by and cleft their way with oars over against the island of Ares all day long ; for at dusk the light breeze left them. At last they spied above them, hurtling through the air, one of the birds of Ares which haunt that isle. It shook its wings down over the ship as she sped on and sent against her a keen feather, and it fell on the left shoulder of goodly Oileus, and he dropped his oar from his hands at the sudden blow, and his comrades marvelled at the sight of the winged bolt. And Eribotes from his seat hard by drew out the feather, and bound up the wound when he had loosed the strap hanging from his own sword-sheath ; and besides the first, another bird appeared swooping down ; but the hero Clytus, son of Eurytus—for he bent his curved bow, and sped a swift arrow against the bird—struck it, and it whirled round and fell close to the ship. And to them spake Amphidamus, son of Alcus :

“ The island of Ares is near us ; you know it yourselves now that ye have seen these birds. But little will arrows avail us, I trow, for landing. But let us contrive some other device to help us, if ye intend to land, bearing in mind the injunction of Phineus. For not even could Heracles, when he came to Arcadia, drive away with bow and arrow the birds that swam on the Stympheian lake. I saw it myself. But he shook in his hand a rattle of bronze and made a loud clatter as he stood upon a lofty

τηλαῦ, ἀτυξηλῶ ὑπὸ δέλματι κεκληγνῖαι.
 τῷ καὶ νῦν τοίην τιν' ἐπιφραζώμεθα μῆτιν·
 αὐτὸς δ' ἦν τὸ πύρουθεν ἐπιφρασθεὶς ἐνέποιμι.
 ἀνθέμενοι κεφαλῇσιν ἡρασιλόφους τρυφαλείας, 1000
 ἡμίσεες μὲν ἐρέσσειτ' ἡμοιβαδίς, ἡμίσεες δὲ
 δοῦρασί τε ξυστοῖσι καὶ ἀσπίσιν ἄρσετε νῆα.
 αὐτὰρ πασσυδίῃ περιώσιον ἔρυντ' αὐτὴν
 ἰθρῶσι, ἔφρα κολῶν ἀηθείῃ φοβέωνται
 νεύοντάς τε λείφους καὶ ἐπήρα δοῦραθ' ὕπερθεν.
 εἰ δέ κεν αὐτὴν νῆσον ἰκώμεθα, δὴ τότε ἔπειτα
 σὺν κελάδῳ σακέεσσι πελώριον ὄρατε δοῦπον·

ὧς ἄρ' ἔφη· πάντεσσι δ' ἐπίρροθος ἦνδανε
 μῆτις.

ἁμφὶ δὲ χαλκείας κόρυθας κεφαλῇσιν ἔθεντο
 δεινὸν λαμπομένας, ἐπὶ δὲ λόφοι ἐσσεύοντο 1070
 φοινίκεσι. καὶ τοὶ μὲν ἡμοιβήδην ἐλίσσσκον·
 τοὶ δ' αὖτ' ἐγχείησι καὶ ἀσπίσι νῆ' ἐκίλυνσαν.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε τις κερῶμφ κατερέψεται ἐρκίον ἀνὴρ,
 δώματος ἀγλαίην τε καὶ ἑτοῦ ἔμμεναι ἄλκαρ,
 ἄλλω δ' ἔμπεδον ἄλλος ὁμῶς ἐπαμοιβὸς ἄρῃεν·
 ὡς οὖγ' ἀσπίσι νῆα συναρτύναντες ἔρυσαν.

αἷη δὲ κλαγγὴ δῆον πέλει ἐξ ὁμάδοιο
 ἀνδρῶν κυνόμενων, ὅπότε ξυνίωσι φύλαγγες,
 τοίη ἄρ' ὑψόθι νηὸς ἐς ἡέρα κίδινατ' αὐτῇ.
 οὐδέ τιν' οἰωνῶν ἔτ' ἐσέδρακον, ἀλλ' ὅτε νήσω 1080
 χρίμψαντες σακέεσσιν ἐπέκτυπον, αὐτίκ' ἄρ' οὔγε
 μυρίοι ἔνθα καὶ ἐνθα πεφυζότες ἠερέθοντο.
 ὥς δ' ὅπότε Κροιάδης πυκινὴν ἐφέθηκε χάλαζαν
 ἐκ νεφέων ἀνά τ' ἄστυ καὶ οἰκία, τοὶ δ' ὑπὸ τοῖσιν
 ἐνσαέται κίναθον τεγέων ὑπερ εἰσαίοντες
 ἦνται ἀκήν, ἐπεὶ οὐ σφε κατέλλαβε χεῖματος ὥρη
 ἀπροφάτως, ἀλλὰ πρὶν ἐκαρτύναντο μέλαθρον

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK II

peak, and the birds fled far off, screeching in bewildered fear. Wherefore now too let us contrive some such device, and I myself will speak, having pondered the matter beforehand. Set on your heads your helmets of lofty crest, then half row by turns, and half fence the ship about with polished spears and shields. Then all together raise a mighty shout so that the birds may be scared by the unwanted din, the nodding crests, and the uplifted spears on high. And if we reach the island itself, then make mighty noise with the clashing of shields."

Thus he spake, and the helpful device pleased all. And on their heads they placed helmets of bronze, gleaming terribly, and the blood-red crests were tossing. And half of them rowed in turn, and the rest covered the ship with spears and shields. And as when a man roofs over a house with tiles, to be an ornament of his home and a defence against rain, and one tile fits firmly into another, each after each; so they roofed over the ship with their shields, locking them together. And as a din arises from a warrior-host of men sweeping on, when lines of battle meet, such a shout rose upward from the ship into the air. Now they saw none of the birds yet, but when they touched the island and clashed upon their shields, then the birds in countless numbers rose in flight hither and thither. And as when the son of Cronos sends from the clouds a dense hail-storm on city and houses, and the people who dwell beneath hear the din above the roof and sit quietly, since the stormy season has not come upon them unawares, but they have first made strong their roofs; so the birds sent against the heroes a thick

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK II

the waves hurled the sons of Phrixus, together with their mussy beam, upon the beach of the island, in the murky night; and the floods of ruin from Zeus ceased at sunrise, and soon the two bands drew near and met each other, and Argus spoke first:

"We beseech you, by Zeus the Beholder, whoever ye are, to be kindly and to help us in our need. For fierce tempests, falling on the sea, have shattered all the timbers of the crazy ship in which we were cleaving our path on business bent. Wherefore we entreat you, if haply ye will listen, to grant us just a covering for our bodies, and to pity and succour men in misfortune, your equals in age. Oh, reverence suppliants and strangers for Zeus' sake, the god of strangers and suppliants. To Zeus belong both suppliants and strangers; and his eye, methinks, beholdeth even us."

And in reply the son of Aeson prudently questioned him, deeming that the prophecies of Phineus were being fulfilled: "All these things will we straightway grant you with right good will. But come tell me truly in what country ye dwell and what business bids you sail across the sea, and tell me your own glorious names and lineage."

And him Argus, helpless in his evil plight, addressed: "That one Phrixus an Aetid reached Aea from Hellas you yourselves have clearly heard ere this, I trow; Phrixus, who came to the city of Aetes, bestriding a ram, which Hermes had made all gold; and the fleece ye may see even now. The ram, at its own prompting, he then sacrificed to

Φυξίῳ ἐκ πάντων Κρομίδῃ Διί. καί μιν ἔδεκτο
 Αἰήτης μεγάρῳ, κούρην τέ οἱ ἐγγυάλιξεν
 Καλειώπην ἀνιέδνον εὐφροσύνησι νόοιο.
 τῶν ἐξ ἀμφοτέρων εἰμὲν γένος, ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἤδη 1150
 γηραιὸς θάναθ' Ὀρίξος ἐν Αἰήτῳ ὁμοίῳσιν
 ἡμεῖς δ' αὐτίκα πατρὸς ἐφετμάων ἀλέγοντες
 κεύμεθ' ἐς Ὀρχομενὸν κτείνων Ἀθάμαντος ἔκητι.
 εἰ δὲ καὶ οὐνομα δῆθεν ἐπιθύεις δεδαῆσθαι,
 τῷδε Κυτίσσωρος πέλει οὐνομα, τῷδ' ἔτε
 τῷδ' ἔτε Μέλας· ἐμὲ δ' αὐτὸν ἐπικλελοίτε κεν Ἄργον.
 Ὡς φάτ'· ἀριστῆες δὲ συνηβολίῃ κεχάροντο,
 καὶ σφεας ἀμφίεπον περιθαμβέες. αὐτὰρ Ἴφσιον
 ἐξαυτίς κατὰ μοῖραν ἀμείψατο τοῖσδ' ἐπέεσσιν·
 Ἦ ἄρα δὴ γνωτοὶ πατρώιοι ἄμμιν ὄντες 1160
 λίσσεσθ' εὐμενέοντας ἐπαρκέσαι κακότητι.
 Κρηθεὺς γάρ ῥ' Ἀθύμας τε κασίνγητοι γεγάασιν.
 Κρηθῆος δ' υἱὸν ἐγὼ σὺν τοισίδ' ἑταίροις
 Ἑλλάδος ἐξ αὐτῆς νέομ' ἐς πόλιν Αἰήτιας.
 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν καὶ ἐσαυτίς ἐνέψομεν ἀλλήλοισιν,
 νῦν δ' ἔσασσθε πάροιθεν. ὑπ' ἐννεσίῃσι δ' οἴω
 ἀθανάτων ἐς χεῖρας ἐμὰς χατέοντας ἰκέσθαι.
 Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἐκ νηὸς δῶκέ σφισιν εἴματα δῦναι,
 πασσυδίῃ δ' ἡπειτα κίον μετὰ νηὸν Ἄρης,
 μῆλ' ἱερευσόμενοι περὶ δ' ἐσχάτῃ ἐστήσαντο 1170
 ἐσσυμένως, ἦτ' ἐκτὸς ἀνηρεφέος πέλε νηοῦ
 στυῖων· εἴσω δὲ μέγας λίθος ἡρήρειστο
 ἱερός, ᾧ ποτε πῦσαι Ἀμαζόνες εὐχετέωντο.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK II

Zeus, son of Cronos, above all, the god of fugitives. And him did Aetes receive in his palace, and with gladness of heart gave him his daughter Chalciope in marriage without gifts of wooing.¹ From those two are we sprung. But Phrixus died at last, an aged man, in the home of Aetes; and we, giving heed to our father's behests, are journeying to Orchomenus to take the possessions of Athamas. And if thou dost desire to learn our names, this is Cytissorus, this Phrontis, and this Melas, and me ye may call Argus."

Thus he spake, and the chieftains rejoiced at the meeting, and tended them, much marvelling. And Jason again in turn replied, as was sitting, with these words:

"Surely ye are our kinsmen on my father's side, and ye pray that with kindly hearts we succour your evil plight. For Cretheus and Athamas were brothers. I am the grandson of Cretheus, and with these comrades here I am journeying from that same Hellas to the city of Aetes. But of these things we will converse hereafter. And do ye first put clothing upon you. By heaven's devising, I ween, have ye come to my hands in your sore need."

He spake, and out of the ship gave them raiment to put on. Then all together they went to the temple of Ares to offer sacrifice of sheep; and in haste they stood round the altar, which was outside the roofless temple, an altar built of pebbles; within a black stone stood fixed, a sacred thing, to which of yore the Amazons all used to pray. Nor was it

¹ i.e. without exacting gifts from the bridegroom. So in the *Iliad* (ix. 146) Agamemnon offers Achilles any of his three daughters he desires.

ἀλλ' αἰνῶς ὁλοῇσιν ἀπηνείρουν ἄρηρεν
 Αἰήτης· τῷ καὶ περιδείδια ναυτίλλεσθαι.
 στεῦται δ' Ἡελίου γόνος ἔμμεναν ἀμφὶ δὲ Κόλχων
 ἔθνεα ναιετάουσιν ἀπείρουα· καὶ δέ κεν Ἄρει
 σμερδαλέην ἐνοπήν μέγα τε σθένος ἰσοφαρίζοι.
 οὐ μὰν οὐδ' ἀπάνευθεν ἔλειν δέρος Αἰήτας
 ῥηΐδιον, τοῖός μιν ὄφιν περί τ' ἀμφὶ τ' ἔρυσται
 ἀθάνατος καὶ ἄνπρος, ἐν αὐτῇ Γαῖ' ἀνέφυσεν
 Καυκάσου ἐν κρημοῖσι, Τυφασινή ὅθι πέτρη,
 ἐνθα Τυφάονί φασι Διὸς Κροινίδαο κεραυνῷ
 βλήμενον, ὅππότε οἱ στιβαρὰς ἐπορέξατο χεῖρας,
 θερμὸν ἀπὸ κρατὸς στάξαι φόνον· ἴκετο δ' αὐτῶς
 οὖρεα καὶ πεδῖον Νυσηῖον, ἐνθ' ἔτι νῦν περ
 κεῖται ὑποβρύχιος Σερβωνίδος ὕδασι λίμνης·

1210

Ἦς ἄρ' ἔφη· πολλέσσι δ' ἐπὶ χλόος εἶλε παρειὰς
 αὐτίκα, τοῖον ἄεθλον ὅτ' ἔκλυον· αἰψὰ δὲ Πηλεὺς
 θαρσαλέοις ἐπέσσειν ἀμείψατο, φώνησέν τε·

Μηδ' οὕτως, ἡθεῖς, λίην δευδίσσεο θυμῷ.
 οὔτε γὰρ ᾧδ' ἄλκην ἐπιδενόμεθ', ὥστε χερσίους
 ἔμμεναι Αἰήτας σὺν ἔντεσι πειρηθῆναι·
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡμέας οἶω ἐπισταμένους πολέμοιο
 κείσε μολεῖν, μακάρων σχεδὸν αἵματος ἐκγεγαῶτας.
 τῷ εἰ μὴ φιλότῃτι δέρος χρύσειον ὀπύσσει,
 οὐ οἱ χροισμήσειν ἐπιέλπομαι ἔθνεα Κόλχων·

1220

Ἦς οὔγ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἀμοιβαδὸν ἡγορόωντο,
 μέσφ' αὖτις δόρποιο κορεσσόμενοι κατέδαρθεν.
 ἦρι δ' ἀνεγρομένοισιν ἐυκράης ἄεν οὔρος·
 ἰστία δ' ἦειραν, τὰ δ' ὑπαὶ ῥιπῆς ἀνέμοιο
 τέλνεται· ῥίμφα δὲ νῆσον ἀποπροέλειπον Ἄριος.

1230

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK II

And at nightfall they came to the island of Philyra, where Cronos, son of Uranus, what time in Olympus he reigned over the Titans, and Zeus was yet being nurtured in a Cretan cave by the Curetes of Ida, lay beside Philyra, when he had deceived Rhea; and the goddess found them in the midst of their dalliance; and Cronos leapt up from the couch with a rush in the form of a steed with flowing mane, but Ocean's daughter, Philyra, in shame left the spot and those haunts, and came to the long Pelasgian ridges, where by her union with the transfigured deity she brought forth huge Cheliron, half like a horse, half like a god.

Thence they sailed on, past the Maerones and the far-stretching land of the Beeheiri and the overweening Sapeires, and after them the Byzeres; for ever forward they cleave their way, quickly borne by the gentle breeze. And lo, as they sped on, a deep gulf of the sea was opened, and lo, the steep crags of the Caucasian mountains rose up, where, with his limbs bound upon the hard rocks by galling fetters of bronze, Prometheus fed with his liver an eagle that ever rushed back to its prey. High above the ship at even they saw it flying with a loud whirr, near the clouds; and yet it shook all the sails with the fanning of those huge wings. For it had not the form of a bird of the air but kept poising its long wing-feathers like polished oars. And not long after they heard the bitter cry of Prometheus as his liver was being torn away; and the air rang with his screams until they marked the ravening eagle rushing back from the mountain on the self-same track. And at night, by the skill of Argus, they reached broad-flowing Phasis, and the utmost bourne of the sea.



BOOK III

ἄνδρα πορφύρουσαι ἐνὶ σφίσιν· αἰτίκα δ' Ἥρη
τοῖον μητιόουσα παροιτέρη ἔκφατο μῦθον·
‘Δεῦρ’ ἵομεν μετὰ Κύπριν· ἐπιπλόμεναι δέ μιν
ἄμφω

παιδὶ ἐφ’ εἰπεῖν ὁτρύνομεν, αἱ κε πίθηται
κούρην Αἰήτῳ πολυφάρμακον οἷσι βέλεσσιν
βέλξαι ὁστεύσας ἐπ’ Ἰήσῳ. τὸν δ’ ἄν οἶω
κείνης ἐννεσίῃσιν ἐς Ἑλλάδα κῶας ἀνάξειν.

‘Ὡς ἄρ’ ἔφη· πυκινὴ δὲ συνεύαδε μῆτις Ἀθήνη, 30
καὶ μιν ἔπειτ’ ἐξαῦτις ἀμείβετο μελιχίοισιν·
‘Ἥρη, νῆϊδα μὲν με πατήρ τέκε τοῖο βολύων,
οὐδέ τινα χρεῖὸν θελκτήριον οἶδα πόθῃο.
εἰ δέ σοι αὐτῇ μῦθος ἐφανεύει, ἦ τ’ ἄν ἔγωγε
ἑσποίμην· σὺ δέ κεν φαίης ἔπος ἀντιόωσα.’

‘Ἢ, καὶ ἀναΐξασαι ἐπὶ μέγα δῶμα νέοντο
Κύπριδος, ὃ βῆ τέ οἱ δεῖμεν πόσις ἀμφεγυῖεις,
ὅππότε μιν τὰ πρῶτα παρὰ Διὸς ἦγεν ἄκοιτιν,
ἔρκεα δ’ εἰσελθούσαι ἐπ’ αἰθούσῃ θαλάμοιο
ἔσταν, ἵν’ ἐντόνεσκε θεὰ λέχος Ἰφαιστόιο. 40
ἢλλ’ ὃ μὲν ἐς χαλκεῶνα καὶ ἄκρονας ἤρι βεβήκει,
νήσοιο πλαγκτῆς εὐρὺν μυχόν, φ’ ἐνὶ πάντα
δαίδαλα χάλκευεν ριπῇ πυρός· ἦ δ’ ἄρα μούνη
ἦστο δόμοι δινώτων ἀνὰ θρόνον, αὐτὰ θυρίων.
λευκοῖσιν δ’ ἐκύτερθε κόμας ἐπιειμένη ὥμοις
κόσμιε χρυσείῃ διὰ κερκίδι, μέλλε δὲ μακροὺς
πλέξασθαι πλοκάμους· τὰς δὲ προπάρουθεν ἰδοῦσα
ἔσχεθεν, εἶσω τέ σφ’ ἐκίλει, καὶ ἀπὸ θρόνον ὤρτο,
εἰσέ τ’ ἐνὶ κλισμαῖσιν· ἀτὰρ μετέπειτα καὶ αὐτὴ
ἔζακεν, ἀψήκτους δὲ χερσὶν ἀνεδήσατο χαίτας. 50
τοῖα δὲ μειδιόωσα προσέννεπεν αἰμυλίοισιν·

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

straightway Hera was the first to speak her thought :
 "Come, let us go to Cypris; let both of us accost her
 and urge her to bid her son (if only he will obey)
 speed his shaft at the daughter of Aeetes, the
 enchantress, and charm her with love for Jason.
 And I deem that by her device he will bring back
 the fleece to Hellas."

Thus she spoke, and the prudent plan pleased
 Athena, and she addressed her in reply with gentle
 words :

"Hera, my father begot me to be a stranger to
 the darts of love, nor do I know any charm to work
 desire. But if the word pleases thee, surely I will
 follow; but thou must speak when we meet her."

So she said, and starting forth they came to the
 mighty palace of Cypris, which her husband, the
 halt-footed god, had built for her when first he
 brought her from Zeus to be his wife. And entering
 the court they stood beneath the gallery of the
 chamber where the goddess prepared the couch of
 Hephaestus. But he had gone early to his forge
 and anvils to a broad cavern in a floating island where
 with the blast of flame he wrought all manner of
 curious work; and she all alone was sitting within, on
 an inlaid seat facing the door. And her white
 shoulders on each side were covered with the mantle
 of her hair and she was parting it with a golden
 comb and about to braid up the long tresses; but
 when she saw the goddesses before her, she stayed
 and called them within, and rose from her seat and
 placed them on couches. Then she herself sat
 down, and with her hands gathered up the locks
 still uncombed. And smiling she addressed them
 with crafty words :

‘ Ἡθεΐαι, τίς δεῦρο νόος χρειώ τε κομίζει
 δηναιᾶς αὐτῶς; τί δ’ ἰκάνετον, οὔτι πάρος γε
 λήν φοιτίζουσαι, ἐπεὶ περίεστε θεῶν;’

Τὴν δ’ Ἥρη τοίοισιν ἀμειβομένη προσέειπεν·
 ‘ Κερταμέειν· νῶϊν δὲ κέαρ συνορίνεται ἄτη.

ἦδη γὰρ ποταμῷ ἐνὶ Φαίσιδι νῆα κατίσχει
 Λίσσινδης, ἧδ’ ἄλλοι ὅσοι μετὰ κῶας ἔπονται.

τῶν ἦτοι πάντων μὲν, ἐπεὶ πέλας ἔργον ὄρωρεν,
 δαΐδιμεν ἐκπάγλως, περὶ δ’ Λίσσινδαο μάλιστα. 60

τὸν μὲν ἐγών, εἰ καὶ περ ἐς Λίδα ναυτίλληται
 λυσόμενος χαλκῶν Ἰξίονα νειόθει δεσμῶν,

βύσσαι, ὅσσαν ἡμοῖσιν ἐνὶ σθένος ἔπλετο γυίοις,
 ὄφρα μὴ ἐγγελάσῃ Πελίας κακὸν οἶτον ἀλύξας,
 ὅς μ’ ὑπερηνωρέῃ θυεὼν ἀγέραςτον ἔθηκεν.

καὶ δ’ ἄλλως ἐτι καὶ πρὶν ἡμοὶ μέγα φίλατ’ Ἰήσων
 ἐξότ’ ἐπὶ προχοῇσιν ἄλκις πλήθοντος Ἀναύρου
 ἰνδρῶν εὐνομῆς πειρωμένη ἰντεβόλησεν

θήρης ἐξανιών, νιφάτῳ δ’ ἐπαλύνετο πάντα
 οὔρεα καὶ σκοπιαὶ περιμήκεες, οἳ δὲ κατ’ αὐτῶν 70
 χεῖμαρροι καναχηδὰ κυλιερόμενοι φορέοντο.

γρηὶ δέ μ’ εἰσαμένην ὀλοφύρατο, καὶ μ’ ἰνακίρας
 αὐτὸς ἑοῖς ὤμοισι διὰκ προάλῃς φέρειν ὕδωρ.

τῷ νύ μοι ἀλληκτον περιτίεται· οὐδέ κε λῶβην
 τίσειεν Πελίας, εἰ μὴ σὺ γε νόστον ὀπάσσεις.’

ὣς ἤβδα· Κύπριν δ’ ἐνεοστασίη λάβε μύθων.
 ἄζετο δ’ ἀντομένην Ἥρην ἔθεν εἰσορώσα.

καὶ μιν ἔπειτ’ ἰγανόισι προσέειπε· ἦγ’ ἐπέεσσιν·
 ‘ Πάντα θεαί, μή τοι’ τι κακώτερον ἄλλα πέλοιτο

Κύπριδος, εἰ δὴ σείο λιλαιομένης ἀθερίζω 80
 ἢ ἔπος ἢ τι ἔργον, ὃ κεν χεῖρες αἰγῆς κάμοιεν
 ἠπεδανί· καὶ μὴ τις ἀμοιβαίῃ χάρις ἔστω.’

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

"Good friends, what intent, what occasion brings you here after so long? Why have ye come, not too frequent visitors before, chief among goddesses that ye are?"

And to her Hera replied: "Thou dost mock us, but our hearts are stirred with calamity. For already on the river Phasis the son of Aeson moors his ship, he and his comrades in quest of the fleece. For all their sakes we fear terribly (for the task is nigh at hand) but most for Aeson's son. Him will I deliver, though he sail even to Hades to free Ixion below from his brazen chains, as far as strength lies in my limbs, so that Pelias may not mock at having escaped an evil doom—Pelias who left me unhonoured with sacrifice. Moreover Jason was greatly loved by me before, ever since at the mouth of Anaurus in flood, as I was making trial of men's righteousness, he met me on his return from the chase; and all the mountains and long ridged peaks were sprinkled with snow, and from them the torrents rolling down were rushing with a roar. And he took pity on me in the likeness of an old crone, and raising me on his shoulders himself bore me through the headlong tide. So he is honoured by me unceasingly; nor will Pelias pay the penalty of his outrage, unless thou wilt grant Jason his return."

Thus she spake, and speechlessness seized Cypria. And beholding Hera supplicating her she felt awe, and then addressed her with friendly words: "Dread goddess, may no viler thing than Cypria ever be found, if I disregard thy eager desire in word or deed, whatever my weak arms can effect; and let there be no favour in return."

Ὦς ἔφαθ'· Ἥρη δ' αὖτις ἐπιφραδέως ἀγόρευσεν·
 'Οὔτι βίης χατέουσαι ἰκάνομεν, οὐδέ τι χειρῶν.
 ἄλλ' αὐτως ἀκένυσα τεῶ ἐπικέκλεο παιδί
 παρθένον Λιήτῳ θέλξαι πόθῳ Λίσουλιζο.
 εἰ γάρ οἱ κείνῃ συμφρούσσεται εὐμενέουσα,
 βηιδίῳ μιν ἑλόντα δέρος χρύσειον ὅλω
 νοστήσειν ἐς Ἰωλκόν, ἐπεί δολόεσσα τέτυκται.'

Ὦς ἄρ' ἔφη· Κύπρις δέ μετ' ἀμφοτέρησιν ἔειπεν· 90
 'Ἥρη, Ἀθηναίη τε, πίθοιτό κεν ὅμμι μάλιστα,
 ἢ ἐμοί. ὅμμιον γὰρ ἀναιδήτῳ περ ἔοντι
 τυτθὴ γ' αἰδῶς ἔσσει' ἐν ὄμμασιν· αὐτὰρ ἐμεῖο
 οὐκ ὄσεται, μάλα δ' αἶν ἐριδμαίνων ἀθερίζει.
 καὶ δὴ οἱ μενέηνα, περισχομένη κακότητι,
 αὐτοῖσιν τόξοισι δυσηχέας ἄξαι ὁιστοῦς
 ἀμφαδίην. τοῖον γὰρ ἐπηπείλησε χαλεφθείς,
 εἰ μὴ τηλόθι χεῖρας, ἕως ἔτι θυμὸν ἐρύκει,
 ἔξω ἐμαῖς, μετόπιστά γ' ἀτεμβοίμην ἐσὶ αὐτῇ.'

Ὦς φάτο· μεῖδῃσαν δὲ θεαί, καὶ ἐσέδρακον αὐτὴν 100
 ἀλλήλαις, ἣ δ' αὖτις ἀκηχεμένη προσέειπεν·
 'Ἄλλοις ἄλγεα τὰμὰ γέλωος πέλει· οὐδέ τί με χρὴ
 μυθεῖσθαι πάντεσσιν· ἅλις εἰδυῖα καὶ αὐτῇ.
 νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ ὅμμι φίλον τόδε δὴ πέλει ἀμφοτέρησιν,
 πειρήσω, καὶ μιν μελίξομαι, οὐδ' ἀπιθήσει.'

Ὦς φάτο· τὴν δ' Ἥρη βαδινῆς ἐπεμάσσατο
 χειρὸς,
 ἣνα δὲ μειδιώσα παραβλήθην προσέειπεν·
 'Ὅτῳ νῦν, Κυθήρεια, τόδε χρέος, ὥς ἀγορεύεις,
 ἔρξον ἄφαρ· καὶ μὴ τι χαλέπτεο, μηδ' ἐρίδαινε
 χωομένη σὴ παιδί· μεταλλήξει γὰρ ὀπίσσω.'

Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἔλλιπε θῶκον· ἐφωμάρτησε δ' Ἀθήνη·
 ἐκ δ' ἴσαν ἄμφω ταίγε παλίσσυτοι. ἣ δὲ καὶ αὐτὴ
 βῆ ῥ' ἵμεν Οὐλύμποιο κατὰ πτύχας, εἰ μιν ἐφείροι.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

She spake, and Hera again addressed her with prudence: "It is not in need of might or of strength that we have come. But just quietly bid thy boy charm Aetes' daughter with love for Jason. For if she will aid him with her kindly counsel, easily do I think he will win the fleece of gold and return to Ioleus, for she is full of wiles."

Thus she spake, and Cypris addressed them both: "Hera and Athena, he will obey you rather than me. For unabashed though he is, there will be some slight shame in his eyes before you; but he has no respect for me, but ever slights me in contentious mood. And, overborne by his naughtiness, I purpose to break his ill-sounding arrows and his bow in his very sight. For in his anger he has threatened that if I shall not keep my hands off him while he still masters his temper, I shall have cause to blame myself thereafter."

So she spake, and the goddesses smiled and looked at each other. But Cypris again spake, vexed at heart: "To others my sorrows are a jest; nor ought I to tell them to all; I know them too well myself. But now, since this pleases you both, I will make the attempt and coax him, and he will not say me nay."

Thus she spake, and Hera took her slender hand and gently smiling, replied: "Perform this task, Cytheron, straightway, as thou sayest; and be not angry or contend with thy boy; he will cease hereafter to vex thee."

She spake, and left her seat, and Athena accompanied her and they went forth both hastening back. And Cypris went on her way through the glens of Olympus to find her boy. And she found him apart,

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

in the blooming orchard of Zeus, not alone, but with him Ganymedes, whom once Zeus had set to dwell among the immortal gods, being enamoured of his beauty. And they were playing for golden dice, as like-minded boys are wont to do. And already greedy Eros was holding the palm of his left hand quite full of them under his breast, standing upright; and on the bloom of his cheeks a sweet blush was glowing. But the other sat crouching hard by, silent and downcast, and he had two dice left which he threw one after the other, and was angered by the loud laughter of Eros. And lo, losing them straightway with the former, he went off empty-handed, helpless, and noticed not the approach of Cypris. And she stood before her boy, and laying her hand on his lips, addressed him :

"Why dost thou smile in triumph, unutterable rogue? Hast thou cheated him thus, and unjustly overcome the innocent child? Come, be ready to perform for me the task I will tell thee of, and I will give thee Zeus' all-beauteous plaything—the one which his dear nurse Adrasteia made for him, while he still lived a child, with childish ways, in the Idaean cave—a well-rounded ball; no better toy wilt thou get from the hands of Hephaestus. All of gold are its zones, and round each double seams run in a circle; but the stitches are hidden, and a dark blue spiral overlays them all. But if thou shouldst cast it with thy hands, lo, like a star, it sends a flaming track through the sky. This I will give thee; and do thou strike with thy shaft and charm the daughter of Aetes with love for Jason; and let there be no loitering. For then my thanks would be the slighter."

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

Thus she spake, and welcome were her words to the listening boy. And he threw down all his toys, and eagerly seizing her robe on this side and on that, clung to the goddess. And he implored her to bestow the gift at once ; but she, facing him with kindly words, touched his cheeks, kissed him and drew him to her, and replied with a smile :

" Be witness now thy dear head and mine, that surely I will give thee the gift and deceive thee not, if thou wilt strike with thy shaft Aetes' daughter."

She spoke, and he gathered up his dice, and having well counted them all threw them into his mother's gleaming lap. And straightway with golden baldric he slung round him his quiver from where it leant against a tree-trunk, and took up his curved bow. And he fired forth through the fruitful orchard of the palace of Zeus. Then he passed through the gates of Olympus high in air ; hence is a downward path from heaven ; and the twin poles rear aloft steep mountain tops—the highest crests of earth, where the risen sun grows ruddy with his first beams. And beneath him there appeared now the life-giving earth and cities of men and sacred streams of rivers, and now in turn mountain peaks and the ocean all around, as he swept through the vast expanse of air.

Now the heroes apart in ambush, in a back-water of the river, were met in council, sitting on the benches of their ship. And Aeson's son himself was speaking among them ; and they were listening silently in their places sitting row upon row : " My friends, what pleases myself that will I say out ; it is for you to bring about its fulfilment. For in

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

common is our task, and common to all alike is the right of speech; and he who in silence withholds his thought and his counsel, let him know that it is he alone that bereaves this land of its home-return. Do ye others rest here in the ship quietly with your arms; but I will go to the palace of Aetes, taking with me the sons of Phrixus and two comrades as well. And when I meet him I will first make trial with words to see if he will be willing to give up the golden fleece for friendship's sake or not, but trusting to his might will set at naught our quest. For so, learning his forwardness first from himself, we will consider whether we shall meet him in battle, or some other plan shall avail us, if we refrain from the war-cry. And let us not merely by force, before putting words to the test, deprive him of his own possession. But first it is better to go to him and win his favour by speech. Oftentimes, I ween, does speech accomplish at need what prowess could hardly carry through, smoothing the path in manner befitting. And he once welcomed noble Phrixus, a fugitive from his stepmother's wiles and the sacrifice prepared by his father. For all men everywhere, even the most shameless, reverence the ordinance of Zeus, god of strangers, and regard it."

Thus he spake, and the youths approved the words of Aeson's son with one accord, nor was there one to counsel otherwise. And then he summoned to go with him the sons of Phrixus, and Telamon and Angeus; and himself took Hermes' wand; and at once they passed forth from the ship beyond the reeds and the water to dry land, towards the rising ground of the plain. The plain, I wis, is called

Κιρκαῖον τόδε που κικλήσκειται· ἔνθα δὲ πολλαὶ 200
 ἐξείης πρόμπλοί τε καὶ ἱτέαι ἐκπεφύασιν,
 τῶν καὶ ἐπ' ἰκροτάτων νέκυες σειρήνῃσι κρέμανται
 δέσμοι· εἰσέτι νῦν γὰρ ἄγος Κόλχοισιν ὄρωρεν
 ἰνέρας οἰχομένους πυρὶ καίμεν· οὐδ' ἐνὶ γαίῃ
 ἔστι θέμις στείλαντας ὑπερθ' ἐπὶ σῆμα χέεσθαι,
 ἀλλ' ἐν ἀδεφῆτοισι κατειλύσαντε βοεῖαν
 δυνδρέων ἐξάπτειν ἐκὰς ἄσπεος· ἥρι δ' ἴσπν
 καὶ χθὼν ἔμμορεν αἶσαν, ἐπεὶ χθονὶ ταρχύνουσιν
 θηλυτέρας· ἡ γὰρ τε δίκη θεσμοῖο τέτυκται.
 Τοῖσι δὲ νισσόμενοι· Ἦρη φίλα μητιόουσα 210
 ἥρα πούλῳ ἐφῆκε δι' ἄσπεος, ὄφρα λάθοιεν
 Κόλχων μυρίον ἔθνος ἐς Λιήταο κίοντες.
 ὦκα δ' ὅτ' ἐκ πεδίοιο πόλιν καὶ δώμαθ' ἴκοντο
 Λιήτew, τότε δ' αὖτις ἀπεσκέδασεν νέφος· Ἦρη
 ἔσταν δ' ἐν προμολῇσι τεθηπότες ἔρκ' ἀνακτος
 εὐρείας τε πύλας καὶ κίονας, οἱ περὶ τοίχους
 ἐξείης ἀνεχον· θρυγκὸς δ' ἐφύπερθε δόμοιο
 λαίνεος χαλκέουσι ἐπὶ γλυφίδεσσιν ἀρήρει
 εὐκηλοὶ δ' ὑπὲρ οὐδὸν ἔπειτ' ἔβαν· ἄγχι δὲ τοῖο 220
 ἡμερίδες χλοεραῖσι καταστεφές πετύλοισιν
 ὑψοῦ ἀειρόμεναι μέγ' ἐθήλεον· αἱ δ' ὑπὸ τῆσιν
 πέναισι κρῆναι πίσυρες ῥέον, ἅς ἐλάχνηεν
 Ἥφαιστος· καὶ ῥ' ἡ μὲν ἀναβλύεσκε γάλακτι,
 ἡ δ' αἶνω, τριτάτῃ δὲ θυώδει νῦν ἀλοιφῇ·
 ἡ δ' ἄρ' ὕδωρ προρέεσκε, τὸ μὲν ποθι δυομένῃσιν
 θέρμετο Πηληιάδεσσιν, ἀμοιβηδὶς δ' ἀνισύσαις
 κρυστίῳ Ἰκελὸν κοίλῃς ἀνεκίχκε πέτρης.
 τοῖ' ἄρ' ἐνὶ μεγάροισι Κυταιέος Λιήταο
 τεχνήεις Ἥφαιστος ἐμήσατο θέσκελα ἔργα.
 καὶ οἱ χαλκόποδας ταύρους κάμε, χιλκεα δὲ σφέων 230

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

Circe's; and here in line grow many willows and osiers, on whose topmost branches hang corpses bound with cords. For even now it is an abomination with the Colchians to burn dead men with fire; nor is it lawful to place them in the earth and raise a mound above, but to wrap them in untanned oxhides and suspend them from trees far from the city. And so earth has an equal portion with air, seeing that they bury the women; for that is the custom of their land.

And as they went Hera with friendly thought spread a thick mist through the city, that they might fare to the palace of Aetes unseen by the countless hosts of the Colchians. But soon when from the plain they came to the city and Aetes' palace, then again Hera dispersed the mist. And they stood at the entrance, marvelling at the king's courts and the wide gates and columns which rose in ordered lines round the walls; and high up on the palace a coping of stone rested on brazen triglyphs. And silently they crossed the threshold. And close by garden vines covered with green foliage were in full bloom, lifted high in air. And beneath them ran four fountains, ever-flowing, which Hephaestus had delved out. One was gushing with milk, one with wine, while the third flowed with fragrant oil; and the fourth ran with water, which grew warm at the setting of the Pleiads, and in turn at their rising bubbled forth from the hollow rock, cold as ice. Such then were the wondrous works that the craftsman-god Hephaestus had fashioned in the palace of Cytæan Aetes. And he wrought for him bulls with feet of bronze, and their mouths were of bronze, and from them they breathed

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

"After all then, ye were not destined to leave me in your heedlessness and to wander far; but fate has turned you back. Poor wretch that I am! What a yearning for Hellas from some woeful madness seized you at the behest of your father Phrixus. Bitter sorrows for my heart did he ordain when dying. And why should ye go to the city of Orchomenus, whoever this Orchomenus is, for the sake of Athamas' wealth, leaving your mother alone to hear her grief?"

Such were her words; and Acetes came forth last of all and Midyia herself came, the queen of Acetes, on hearing the voice of Chaleiope; and straightway all the court was filled with a throng. Some of the thralls were busied with a mighty bull, others with the axe were cleaving dry billets, and others heating with fire water for the baths; nor was there one who relaxed his toil, serving the king.

Meantime Eros passed unseen through the grey mist, causing confusion, as when against grazing heifers rises the gully, which oxherds call the breeze. And quickly beneath the lintel in the porch he strung his bow and took from the quiver an arrow unshot before, messenger of pain. And with swift feet unmarked he passed the threshold and keenly glanced around; and gliding close by Aeson's son he laid the arrow-notch on the cord in the centre, and drawing wide apart with both hands he shot at Medea; and speechless amazement seized her soul. But the god himself flashed back again from the high-roofed hall, laughing loud; and the bolt burnt deep down in the maiden's heart, like a flame; and ever she kept darting bright glances straight up at Aeson's son, and within her breast her

στηθέων ἐκ πυκινὰ καμύτῳ φρένες, οὔδ' ἐτιν' ἄλλην
 μνήστιν ἔχεν, γλυκερῇ δὲ κατείβετο θυμὸν ἀνίη. 200
 ὥς δὲ γυνὴ μαλερῷ περὶ κάρφεια χεύατο δαλῶ
 χερυῆτις, τῇ περ ταλασίηα ἔργα μέμηλεν,
 ὥς κεν ὑπάρύφειον νύκτωρ σέλας ἐντύναίτο,
 ἄγχι μίλ' ἐγγραμένη· τὸ δ' ἀθέσφατον ἐξ ὀλίγοιο
 δαλοῦ ἀνεγρόμενον σὺν κάρφεια πάντ' ἀμαθύνει
 τοῖος ὑπὸ κραδίῳ εἰλυμένος αἶθετο λάθρῃ
 οὐλος Ἑρώς· ἀπαλὰς δὲ μετετρωπάτο παρειὰς
 ἐς χλόον, ἄλλοτ' ἔρευθος, ἀκηδείησι νόοιο.

Δμῶες δ' ὁππύτε δὴ σφιν ἐπαρτία θῆκαν ἐδωδῆν,
 αὐτοὶ τε λιαροῖσιν ἐφαιδρύναντο λοετροῖς, 300
 ἰσπασίως δόρπῳ τε ποτῇτι τε θυμὸν ἄρεσσαν.
 ἐκ δὲ τοῦ Αἰήτης σφετέρης ἐρέεινε θυγατρὸς
 υἱῆας τάλιοισι παρηγορέων ἐπέεσσιν·

Ἐπαιδὰς ἐμῆς κοῦροι Φρίξοιό τε, τὸν περὶ πάντων
 ξείνων ἡμετέροισιν ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ὄτισα,
 πῶς Αἰάνδε νέεσθε παλίσαντο; ἦέ τις ἄτη
 σωομένους μεσσηγὺς ἐνέκλασεν; οὐ μὲν ἐμεῖο
 πείθευθε προφέροντας ἀπείρονα μέτρα κελεύθου.
 ἦδ' αἶν γὰρ ποτε πατὴρ ἐν ἡρμασιν Ἡελίοιο
 δινεύσας, ὅτ' ἐμεῖο κασιγνήτην ἐκόμιζεν 310
 Κίρκην ἐσπερίης εἴσω χθονός, ἐκ δ' ἐκόμεσθα
 ἰκτὴν ἠπείρου Τυροσηΐδος, ἐνθ' ἔτι νῦν περ
 ναιετάει, μάλ' αὖ πολλὸν ἀπόπροθι Κολχίδος αἴης.
 ἀλλὰ τί μύθων ἦδος; ἃ δ' ἐν ποσὶν ὕμνῳ δρώμεν,
 εἴπατ' ἀμφραδέως, ἥδ' οἵτινες οἷδ' ἐφέπονται
 ἰνέρες, ὅππῃ τε γλαφυρῆς ἐκ νηὸς ἔβητε.

Τοιαῖα μὲν ἐξερέοντα κασιγνήτων προπάροιθεν
 Ἄργος ὑποδδείσας ἀμφὶ στόλῳ Αἰσονίδας
 μελιχίως προσέειπεν, ἐπεὶ προγενέστερος ἦεν·

'Αιήτη, κείνην μὲν ἄφαρ διέχουσαν ἄλλαι
 χαρηεῖς· αὐτοὺς δ' ὑπὸ δούρασι πεπτηῶτας
 νῆσον Ἐνναλίωιο ποτὶ ξερὸν ἔκβαλε κύμα
 λυγαῖρ' ὑπὸ νυκτὶ· θεὸς δέ τις ἅμ' ἐσίωσεν.
 οὐδὲ γὰρ αἶ τὸ πάροιθεν ἐρημαῖον κατὰ νῆσον
 ἠΐλίζοντ' ὄρνιθες Ἀρήϊαι, οὐδ' ἔτι κείνας
 εὖρομεν. ἀλλ' οὔγ' ἄνδρες ἀπήλασαν, ἔξαποβάντες
 νηὸς ἐῆς προτέρῳ ἐπὶ ἡματι· καί σφ' ἀπέρυκεν
 ἡμέας οἰκτεῖρων Ζηνὸς νόος, ἥ τις αἶσα,
 αὐτίκ' ἐπεὶ καὶ βρώσιν ἄλις καὶ εἶματ' ἔδωκεν,
 οὐνομὰ τε Φοῖβωιο περικλεὲς εἰσαΐοντες
 ἠδ' αὐτοῖο σέθεν· μετὰ γὰρ τῶν ἄστν νέονται.
 χρεῖά δ' ἦν ἐθέλῃς ἐξιδόμεναι, οὐ σ' ἐπικεύσω.
 τόνδε τις ἰόμενος πάτρης ἀπάνευθεν ἐλάσσαι
 καὶ κτεάνων βασιλεὺς περιώσιον, οὐνεκεν ἀλκῇ
 σφωιτέρῃ πάντεσσι μετέπρεπεν Λιολίδῃσιν,
 πέμπει δεῦρο νέεσθαι ἡμῆχανον· οὐδ' ὑπαλύξειν
 στεῦνται ἡμειλίκτοιο Διὸς θυμαλγέα μῆνιν
 καὶ χόλον, οἷδ' ἄτλητον ἄγος Φοῖβοῖο τε ποινὰς
 Λιολιδέων γενεήν, πρὶν ἐς Ἑλλάδα κῶας ἰκέσθαι.
 νῆα δ' Ἀθηναίῃ Παλλὰς κάμεν, οὐ μάλ' αὖ τοῖον,
 οἷα περ Κόλχοισι μετ' ἀνδράσι νῆες ἔασιν,
 τάων αἰνοτάτης ἐπεκύρσαμεν. ἤλιθα γάρ μιν
 λάβρου ὕδαρ πνοιή τε διστμαγεν· ἥ δ' ἐνὶ γόμοις
 ἴσχεται, ἦν καὶ πᾶσαι ἐπιβρίσωσιν ἄλλαι.
 ἴσον δ' ἐξ ἀνέμοιο θέει καὶ ὅτ' ἀνέρες αὐτοὶ
 νωλεμέως χεῖρεσσιν ἐπισπέρχωνσιν ἐρέτμοις.
 τῇ δ' ἀναγευράμενος Παναχαΐδος εἴ τι φέριστον
 ἠρώων, τὸν ἄστν μετήλυθε, πόλλ' ἐπαληθεῖς
 ἄστυ καὶ πελάγη στυγερῆς ἁλός, εἴ οἱ ὀπάσσαις.

320

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340

αὐτῷ δ' ὥς κεν ᾄδῃ, τῷς ἕσσεται· οὐ γὰρ ἰκάνει 350
 χερσὶ βιησόμενος· μέμονεν δέ τοι ἄξια τίσειν
 δωτύνης, αἶων ἡμέτεν μέγα δυσμενέοντας
 Σαυρομίτας, τοὺς σοῖσιν ὑπὸ σκήπτροισι θα-
 μάσσει.

εἰ δὲ καὶ οὐνομα δῖθ' ἐπιθύεις γενεήν τε
 ἰδμεναι, οἴτινές εἰσιν, ἕκαστά γε μυθήσάμεν.
 τόνδε μὲν, οἷό περ οὔνεκ' ἀφ' Ἑλλάδος ὄλλοι
 ἀγερθεν,

κλείουσ' Αἰσωνος υἱὸν Ἰήσωνα Κρηθεῖδ' αὖτο.
 εἰ δ' αὐτοῦ Κρηθῆος ἐτήτυμόν ἐστι γενέθλης,
 οὕτω κεν γνωτὸς πατρώϊος ἄμμι πέλοιτο.
 ἄμφω γὰρ Κρηθεὺς· Ἀθάμας τ' ἔσαν Αἰόλου υἱές· 360
 Φρίξος δ' αὐτ' Ἀθάμαντος ἦν πάϊς Αἰολίδαο.
 τόνδε δ' ἄρ', Ἥελίου γόνον ἔμμεναι εἴ τιν' ἀκούεις,
 δέρκεαι Λυγείῃ· Τελαμῶν δ' ὄγε, κυδίστοιο
 Λιακοῦ ἐκογεσάως· Ζεὺς δ' Αἰακὸν αὐτὸς ἔτικτεν.
 ὥς δὲ καὶ ὄλλοι πάντες, ὅσοι συνέπονται ἐταῖροι,
 ἰθανάτων υἱές τε καὶ υἱωνοὶ γεγάασιν.

Τοῖα παρέννεπεν Ἀργεὺς· ἀναξ δ' ἐπεχάσατο
 μύθοισι

εἰσαίων· ὑψοῦ δὲ χόλῳ φρένες ἠερέθοντο.
 φῆ δ' ἐπαλαστήσας· μενέαινε δὲ παισὶ μίλιστα
 Χαλκιοῦπης· τῶν γάρ σφε μετελθόμεν οὔνεκ' ἐώλπει· 370
 ἐκ δὲ οἱ ὄμματ' ἔλαμψεν ὑπ' ὀφρύσιν ἱμέροιο·

Ὅκ' ἄφαρ ὀφθαλμῶν μοι ἀπόπροθι, λαβη-
 τήρεν,

νεῖσθ' αὐτοῖσι δόλοισι παλίσσυντο· ἔκτοθι γαίης,
 πρὶν τινα ληνγαλίου τε δέρος καὶ Φρίξον ἰδέσθαι·
 αὐτίχ' ὁμαρτήσαντες ἀφ' Ἑλλάδος, οὐκ ἐπὶ κῶας,
 σκήπτρα δὲ καὶ τιμὴν βασιληῖδα δαῖρο νέεσθε.
 εἰ δὲ κε μὴ προπάρουθεν ἐμῆς ἤψασθε τραπέζης,

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thou wilt grant him the fleece. But as thou dost please, so shall it be, for he cometh not to use force, but is eager to pay thee a recompense for the gift. He has heard from me of thy bitter foes the Sauronitæ, and he will subdue them to thy sway. And if thou desirest to know their names and lineage I will tell thee all. This man on whose account the rest were gathered from Hellas, they call Jason, son of Aeson, whom Cretheus begat. And if in truth he is of the stock of Cretheus himself, thus he would be our kinsman on the father's side. For Cretheus and Athamas were both sons of Aeolus; and Phrixus was the son of Athamas, son of Aeolus. And here, if thou hast heard at all of the seed of Helios, thou dost behold Augeias; and this is Telamon sprung from famous Aæacus; and Zeus himself begat Aæacus. And so all the rest, all the comrades that follow him, are the sons or grandsons of the immortals."

Such was the tale of Argus; but the king at his words was filled with rage as he heard; and his heart was lifted high in wrath. And he spake in heavy displeasure; and was angered most of all with the son of Chalciope; for he deemed that on their account the strangers had come; and in his fury his eyes flashed forth beneath his brows:

"Begone from my sight, felons, straightway, ye and your tricks, from the land, ere someone see a fleece and a Phrixus to his sorrow. Banded together with your friends from Hellas, not for the fleece, but to seize my sceptre and royal power have ye come hither. Had ye not first tasted of my table, surely

ἢ τ' ἂν ἀπὸ γλώσσας τε ταμὼν καὶ χεῖρε κεύσας
ἀμφοτέρᾳς, οἷοισιν ἐπιπροέηκα πόδεσσιν,
ὥς κεν ἐρητύοισθε καὶ ὕστερον ὀρμηθῆναι·
οἷα δὲ καὶ μακάρεσσιν ἐπαφύεσασθε θεοῖσιν·

390

Φῆ ῥα χαλεψόμενος· μέγα δὲ φρένες Λίακίδαο
νειόθεν οἰδαίνεσκον· ἐέλδeto δ' ἐνδοθι θυμὸς
ἀντιβίην ὅλοον φάσθαι ἔπος· ἀλλ' ἀπέρυκεν
Αἰσανίδης· πρὶ γὰρ αὐτὸς ἀμείψατο μελιχίοισιν·

Ἄϊήτη, σχέο μοι τῷδε στόλῳ· οὔτι γὰρ αὐταῖς
ἄστυ τεδὼν καὶ δώμαθ' ἱκάνομεν, ὥς πον ἑολπας,
οὐδὲ μὲν ἰέμενοι· τίς δ' ἂν τόσον οἶδμα περῆσαι
τλαίῃ ἐκὼν ὀθνεῖον ἐπὶ κτέρας; ἀλλὰ με δαίμων
καὶ κρυερὴ βασιλῆος ἀτασθάλου ὤρσεν ἐφετμή·
δὸς χάριν ἀντομένοισι· σέθεν δ' ἐγὼ Ἑλλάδι πύσῃ
θεσπεσίην οἴσω κληιδόνα· καὶ δέ τοι ἤδη
πρόφρονές εἰμεν ἄρρη θοὴν ἀποτίσαι ἀμοιβήν,
εἴτ' οὖν Σαυραμάτας γε λιλαίεαι, εἴτε τιν' ἄλλον
δῆμον σφωιτέροισιν ὑπὸ σκήπτροισι δαμάσσαι·

300

Ἴσκειν ὑποσσαίνων ἀγαντὴ ὑπὶ· τοιοῦτο δὲ θυμὸς
διχθαδίην πόρφυρεν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι μενοινῆν,
ἢ σφεας ὀρμηθεὶς αὐτασχεδὼν ἐξεναρίζοι,
ἢ ὄγε πειρήσαιο βίης· τό οἱ εἶσατ' ἄρειον
φραζομένῳ· καὶ δὴ μιν ὑποβλήδην προσέειπεν·

400

Ἔεινε, τί κεν τὰ ἕκαστα διηρυκέως ἀγορεύεις;
εἰ γὰρ ἐτήτυμόν ἐστε θεῶν γένος, ἢ καὶ ἄλλως
οὐδὲν ἐμεῖο χέρηες ἐπ' ὀθνείοισιν ἔβητε,
δώσω τοι χρύσειον ἄγειν δέρος, αἶ κ' ἐθέλησθα,
πειρηθείς· ἐσθλοῖς γὰρ ἐπ' ἀνδράσιν οὔτι μεγάρω,
ὥς αὐτοὶ μυθεῖσθε τὸν Ἑλλάδι κοιρανύοντα.

πείρα δέ τοι μένεός τε καὶ Ἀλκῆς ἔσσειτ' ἄεθλος,
 τὸν ῥ' αὐτὸς περίειμι χεροῖν ὁλοὴν περ ἔοντα.
 δοῖά μοι πεδίον τὸ Ἀρήϊον ἀμφινέμονται
 ταύρω χαλκόποδε, στόματι φλόγα φυσιοῦντες·
 τοὺς ἐλάω ζεύξας στυφελὴν κατὰ νειὸν Ἄρης
 τετρίωγυον, τὴν αἶψα ταμῶν ἐπὶ τέλσον ἰρότρη
 οὐ σπόρον ὀλκοῖσιν Διοῦς ἐνὶ βύλλομαι ἄκτῃν,
 ἀλλ' ὄφιος δεινοῖο μεταλδῆσκοντας ὀδόντας
 ἰνδράσι τευχιστῆσι δέμας· τοὺς δ' αὖθι δαΐζων
 κείρω ἐμῷ ὑπὸ δουρὶ περισταδὸν ἀντιόωντας.
 ἥριος ζεύγνυμι βόας, καὶ δαίμον ὄρη
 παύομαι ἀμήτοιο. σύ δ', εἰ τίδε τοῖα τελέσσεις,
 αὐτῆμαρ τάδε κῶας ἀποίσεις εἰς βασιλῆος·
 πρὶν δέ κεν αὖ δαίην, μηδ' ἔλπειο. δὴ γὰρ ἰεκεῖς
 αὐτὸρ ἰγαθὸν γεγαῶτα κακωτέρῳ ἀνέρι εἶξαι.

410

420

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· ὁ δὲ σῆγα ποδῶν πάρος ὄμματα
 πῆξας

ἦστ' αὐτὸς ἄφθογγος, ἄμηχανέων κακότητι.
 βουλὴν δ' ἀμφὶ πολὺν στρώφα χρόνον, οὐδέ πρ
 εἶχεν

θαρσαλέως ὑποδέχθαι, ἐπεὶ μέγα φαίνετο ἔργον·
 ὧς δ' ἀμειβόμενος προσελέξατο κερδαλέοισιν·

Ἰδέσθῃ, μῦθ' αὖτε με δίκη περὶ πολλὸν ἔργεις.
 τῷ καὶ ἐγὼ τὸν ἄεθλον ὑπερφιάλῳ περ ἔοντα
 τλήσομαι, εἰ καὶ μοι θανέειν μόρος. οὐ γὰρ ἔτ'
 ἄλλο

βέβαιον ἀνθρώποισι κακῆς ἐπικεῖσεται ἀνάγκης,
 ἢ με καὶ ἐνθάδε νείσθαι ἐπέχραεν ἐκ βασιλῆος.

430

Ὡς φησὶν ἄμηχανὴν βεβλημένον· αὐτὰρ ὁ τὸν γο
 σμερδαλέοις ἐπέεσσιν προσέειπεν ἰσχυρόντα·

“Ἐρχεο νῦν μεθ’ ὁμίλον, ἐπεὶ μέμονίης γε πόνοιο·
εἰ δὲ σύγ γε ξυγὰ βουσίη ὑποδδεῖσαις ἐπαίρειαι,
ἢ καὶ οὐλομένου μεταχάσσεαι ἱρήτοιο,
αὐτῷ κεν τὰ ἕκαστα μέλοιτό μοι, ὅφρα καὶ ἄλλος
ἂν ἦρ ἑρρίγησιν ἡρείονα φῶτα μετελθεῖν.”

Ἴσκειν ὑπηλεγείας· ὁ δ’ ἀπὸ θρόνου ἄρκευτ’

Ἰήσων,

Λιγέης Τελαμών τε παρὰσχεδὼν εἶπετο δ’ Ἄργος 410
οἷος, ἐπεὶ μεσσηγὺς ἔτ’ αὐτόθι νεῦσε λιπέσθαι
αὐτοκασυγήτοισ· οἱ δ’ ἦσαν¹ ἐκ μεγάροιο.
θεσπέσιον δ’ ἐν πᾶσι μετέπρεπεν Αἴσσονος υἱὸς
καλλεῖ καὶ χαρέτεσσιν· ἐπ’ αὐτῷ δ’ ὄμματα κούρη
λοξὰ παρὰ λαπαρὴν σχομένη θηεῖτο καλύπτρην,
κῆρ ἄχει σμύχουσα· νόος δὲ οἱ ἦντ’ ὄνειρος
ἐρπύζων πεπότητο μετ’ ἶχνα νισσομένοιο.
καὶ ῥ’ οἱ μὲν ῥα δόμων ἐξήλυθον ἀσχαλῶντες.
Χαλκιόπῃ δὲ χόλον πεφυλαγμένη Λιήτας
καρπαλίμως θάλαμόνδε σὺν υἱίσσῳ οἷσι βεβήκει. 420
αὐτως δ’ αὖ Μιθήεια μετέστιχε· πολλὰ δὲ θυμῷ
ᾤρμαιν’, ὥσσα τ’ Ἐρωτες ἐποτρύνουσι μέλεσθαι.
προπρὸ δ’ ἄρ’ ὀφθαλμῶν ἔτι οἱ ἰνδάλλετο πάντα,
αὐτός θ’ οἷόν τ’ ἦν, οἷοσί τε φάρεσιν ἔστο,
οἷά τ’ ἔειψ’, ὥς θ’ ἔζετ’ ἐπὶ θρόνου, ὥς τε θύραζε
ἦεν· οὐδέ τιν’ ἄλλον οἶσασατο πορφύρουσα
ἔμμεναι ἀνέρα τοῖον ἐν οὔασι δ’ αἰὲν ὀρώρει
αὐδὴν τε μῦθοί τε μελίφρονες, οὓς ἀγύρευσεν.
τέρβει δ’ ἄμφ’ αὐτῷ, μὴ μιν βύες ἢ καὶ αὐτὸς
Λιήτης φθίσειεν· οἰόμετο δ’ ἠύτε πᾶμπαν 430
ἦδη τεθνεῶτα, τέρεν δὲ οἱ ἀμφὶ παρειὰς
δαίκρυνον αἰνότηται· ἐλέω ῥέε κηδοσύνησιν·
ἦκα δὲ μυρομένη λιγέως ἀνευέλκατο μῦθον·

¹ ἦσαν Ranch : ἦσαν M.H.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

"Why does this grief come upon me, poor wretch? Whether he be the best of heroes now about to perish, or the worst, let him go to his doom. Yet I would that he had escaped unharmed; yea, may this be so, revered goddess, daughter of Perseus, may he avoid death and return home; but if it be his lot to be o'ermastered by the oxen, may he first learn this, that I at least do not rejoice in his cruel calamity."

Thus then was the maiden's heart racked by love-cares. But when the others had gone forth from the people and the city, along the path by which at the first they had come from the plain, then Argus addressed Jason with these words:

"Son of Aeson, thou wilt despise the counsel which I will tell thee, but, though in evil plight, it is not fitting to forbear from the trial. Ere now thou hast heard me tell of a maiden that uses sorcery under the guidance of Hecate, Perseus' daughter. If we could win her aid there will be no dread, methinks, of thy defeat in the contest; but terribly do I fear that my mother will not take this task upon her. Nevertheless I will go back again to entreat her, for a common destruction overhangs us all."

He spake with goodwill, and Jason answered with these words: "Good friend, if this is good in thy sight, I say not nay. Go and move thy mother, beseeching her aid with prudent words; pitiful indeed is our hope when we have put our return in the keeping of women." So he spake, and quickly they reached the back-water. And their comrades joyfully questioned them, when they saw them close at hand; and to them spoke Aeson's son grieved at heart:

“ὦ φίλοι, Λιήταο Ἀπηνέας ἄμμι φίλον κῆρ
 ἀντικρὺ κεχόλωται, ἕκαστα γὰρ οὐκ οὐ τι τέκμων
 οὗτ’ ἐμοί, οὔτε κεν ὕμμι διειρομένοισι πέλοιτο.
 φῆ δὲ δῦο πεδίον τὸ Ἄρμιον ἀμφινέμεσθαι
 ταύρω χαλκόποδε, στόματι φλόγα φυσιόωντας.
 τετράγυον δ’ ἐπὶ τοῖσιν ἐφίετο νειὸν Ἀρόσσαι·
 δώσειν δ’ ἐξ ὄφιος γενύων σπόρον, ὅς ῥ’ ἀνίησιν
 γηγενέας χαλκείας σὺν τεύχεσιν· ἡματι δ’ αὐτῷ
 χρεῖα τούσγε λαβεῖναι. ὁ δὲ νῦν οἱ—οὔτε γὰρ ἄλλο (ακ)
 βέλτερον ἢν φρόσασθαι—Ἀπηλεγέως ὑπέστην.”

“ὦς ἄρ’ ἔφη· πάντεσσι δ’ ἀνήνυτος εἶσατ’
 ἄεθλος.

δὴν δ’ ἄνεφ καὶ ἀνανδοὶ ἐς ἀλλήλους ὀρόωντο,
 ἄτη ἱμνηχάνη τε κατηφέες· ὃψέ δὲ Πηλεὺς
 θαρσαλέως μετὰ πᾶσιν ἱριστήεσσιν ἔειπεν·
 “ὦρῃ μνητιάσθαι ὃ κ’ ἐρξομεν. οὐ μὲν ἔολπα
 βουλήs εἶναι ὄνειρα, ὅσον τ’ ἐπὶ κάρτει χειρῶν.
 εἰ μὲν νῦν τύνῃ ζευῖξαι βόας Λιήταο,
 ἦρως Λίσουίδῃ, φρονέεις, μέμονάς τε πόνοιο,
 ἢ τ’ ἂν ὑποσχεσίην πεφυλαγμένοι ἐντόναιο· 510
 εἰ δ’ οὐ τοι μάλα θυμὸς ἐστὶ ἐπὶ πάγχυ πέποιθεν
 ἡγορέῃ, μήτ’ αὐτὸς ἐπείγῃ, μήτε τιν’ ἄλλον
 τῶνδ’ ἀνδρῶν πίπτειναι παρήμενος. οὐ γὰρ ἔγωγε
 σχήσομ’, ἐπεὶ θάνατός γε τὸ κύντατον ἔσσεται
 ἄλγος.”

“ὦς ἔφατ’ Λιακίδης· Τελαμῶσι δὲ θυμὸς ὀρίνθη·
 σπερχόμενος δ’ ἀνόρουσε θεῶν· ἐπὶ δὲ τρίτος Ἴδας
 ὦρτο μέγα φρονέων, ἐπὶ δ’ οἶετ’ Ἰτυνδαρέοιο·
 σὺν δὲ καὶ Οἰνείδης ἐναρίθμιος αἰζηοῖσιν
 ἀνδράσι, οὐδέ περ ὅσον ἐπανθιόωντας ἰούλους

¹ *vide* Köchly: *vide* MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

with such courage was his soul uplifted. But the others gave way to these in silence. And straightway Argus spake these words to those that longed for the contest :

" My friends, this indeed is left us at the last. But I deem that there will come to you some timely aid from my mother. Wherefore, eager though ye be, refrain and abide in your ship a little longer as before, for it is better to forbear than recklessly to choose an evil fate. There is a maiden, nurtured in the halls of Aetes, whom the goddess Hecate taught to handle magic herbs with exceeding skill—all that the land and flowing waters produce. With them is quenched the blast of unwearied flame, and at once she stays the course of rivers as they rush roaring on, and checks the stars and the paths of the sacred moon. Of her we bethought us as we came hither along the path from the palace, if haply my mother, her own sister, might persuade her to aid us in the venture. And if this is pleasing to you as well, surely on this very day will I return to the palace of Aetes to make trial ; and perchance with some god's help shall I make the trial."

Thus he spake, and the gods in their goodwill gave them a sign. A trembling dove in her flight from a mighty hawk fell from on high, terrified, into the lap of Aeson's son, and the hawk fell impaled on the stern-ornament. And quickly Mopaus with prophetic words spake among them all :

" For you, friends, this sign has been wrought by the will of heaven ; in no other way is it possible to interpret its meaning better, than to seek out the maiden and entreat her with manifold skill. And I think she will not reject our prayer, if in truth

εἰ ἐτεδὸν Φινεύς γε θεῶν ἐνὶ Κύπριδι νόστον
πέφραδεν ἔσσεσθαι· κείνης δ' ὄγχε μείλιχος ὄρνις 550
πότμον ὑπεξήλυξε· κέαρ δέ μοι ὥς ἐνὶ θυμῷ
τόνδε κατ' οἰωνὸν προτιόσσεται, ὥς δὲ πέλοιτο.
ἀλλ' αἶ, φίλοι, Κυθήρειαν ἐπικλείοντες ἀμύνειν,
ἤδη νῦν Ἀργαῖοι παραιφισίησι πάθεσθε.'

Ἴσκειν ἐπρήνησαν δὲ νέοι, Φινῆος ἐφετμὰς
μνησάμενοι· μῦθος δ' Ἀφαρήμιος ἄνθορεν Ἴδας,
δεῖν' ἐπαλαστήσας μεγάλῃ ὀπί, φήωνσέν τε
· Ὡ πόποι, ἦ ῥα γυναῖξιν ὁμόστολοι ἐνθάδ' ἔβημεν,
οἱ Κύπριν καλέουσιν ἐπίρροθον ἄμμι πέλεσθαι,
οὐκ ἐτ' Ἐυναλίοιο μέγα σθένος; ἐς δὲ πελειᾶς 560
καὶ κέρκους λήυσσοντες ἐρητύεσθε ἀέθλων;
ἔρρετε, μῆδ' ὕμιν πολεμῆμα ἔργα μέλοιτο,
παρθενικὰς δὲ λιτῆσιν ἀνὴλκιδας ἡπεροπεύειν.'

Ὡς ἤϊδα μεμαῖος· πολέες δ' ὁμάδησαν ἑταῖροι
ἦκα μῶλ', οὐδ' ἄρα τις οἱ ἐναντίον ἔκφατο μῦθον.
χωόμενος δ' ὅγ' ἔπειτα καθέζετο· τοῖσι δ' Ἰήσιων
αὐτίκ' ἐποτρύνων τὸν ἐόν νόον ὧδ' ἀγόρευεν·

· Ἀργος μὲν παρὰ νηὸς, ἐπεὶ τόδε πᾶσι ψαδεν,
στελλέσθω· ἀτὰρ αὐτοὶ ἐπὶ χθονὸς ἐκ πιταμοῖο
ἀμφαδὸν ἤδη πείσματ' ἀνάφομεν· ἦ γὰρ ἔοικεν 570
μηκέτι δὴν κρύπτεσθαι ὑποπτήσαντας αὐτήν.'

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· καὶ τὸν μὲν ἄφαρ προβαλλε νέεσθαι
καρπαλίμως ἐξαῦτις ἀνὰ πτόλιν· οἱ δ' ἐπὶ νηὸς
εὐναίας ἐρύσαντες ἐφετμαῖς Λισσάνδῃα
τυτθὸν ὑπέξ ἔλεος χέρσῳ ἐπέκελσαν ἐρετμοῖς.

Αὐτίκα δ' Αἰήτης ἀγορὴν ποιήσατο Κόλχων
νόσφιν ἐοῖο δόμον, τόθι περ καὶ πρόσθε κάθιζον,
ἀτλήτους Μινύρσι δόλους καὶ κήδεα τεύχων.
στεῦτο δ', ἐπεὶ κεν πρῶτα βόες διαδηλήσωνται

ἄνδρα τόν, ὃς ῥ' ὑπέδεκτο βαρὺν καμέεσθαι ἀεθλον, 530
 δρυμὸν ἀναρρήξας λασίης καθ' ὑπερθε κολαίης
 αὐτανδρὸν φλέξειν ὄρου νήιον, ὅφρ' ἄλεγεινὴν
 ὕβριν ἀποφλύξωσιν ὑπέρβια μηχανώοντες.
 οὐδὲ γὰρ Αἰολίδην Φρίξον μάλα περ χατέοντα
 δέχθαι ἐνὶ μεγάρουσιν ἐφέστιον, ὃς περὶ πάντων
 ξείνων μελιχρὴν τε θεοῦδεῖη τ' ἐκέκαστα,
 εἰ μὴ οἱ Ζεὺς αὐτὸς ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ ἄγγελον ἤκεν
 Ἑρμείαν, ὥς κεν προσκηδέος ἀντιάσειεν
 μὴ καὶ ληιστῆρας ἐὼν ἐς γαῖαν ἰόντας 540
 ἔσσεσθαι δηναίων ἀπήμονας, οἷσι μέμηλεν
 ὀθνείοις ἐπὶ χεῖρα ἐὼν κτεάτεσσιν αἰερεῖν,
 κρυπταδίους τε δόλους τεκταινέμεν, ἥδὲ βοτῆρων
 αὖλῖα δυσκελεύδοισιν ἐπιδρομήσιν δαλῆαι.
 νόσφι δὲ οἱ αὐτῷ φάτ' ἐοικότα μέλῖα τίσειν
 νήϊας Φρίξαιο, κακορρέκτησιν ὀπηδοὺς
 ἀνδράσι νοστήσαντας ὁμιλαδόν, ὅφρα ἔτιμῃς
 καὶ σκήπτρων ἐλάσειαν ἀκηδέες· ὥς ποτε βιάξιν 550
 λευγαλέην οὐ πατρὸς ἐπέκλινεν Ἡελίοιο,
 χρειώ μιν πυκινὸν τε δόλον βουλὰς τε γενέθλης
 σφωιτέρης ἄτην τε πολύτροπον ἐξαλέασθαι
 τῷ καὶ ἐελδομένους πέμπειν ἐς Ἀχαιίδα γαῖαν 560
 πατρὸς ἐφημασύνῃ, δολιχὴν ὁδόν. οὐδὲ θυγατρῶν
 εἶναι αἱ τυτθὸν γε δέος, μὴ πού τινα μήτιν
 φρίσσωνται στιγερὴν, οὐδ' νίεος Ἀψύρτοιο·
 ἀλλ' ἐνὶ Χαλκιόπῃς γενεῇ τάδε λυγρὰ τετύχθαι.
 καὶ ῥ' ὁ μὲν ἄσχετα ἔργα πιφαύσκετο δημοτέροισιν
 χωόμενος· μέγα δὲ σφιν ἀπέειλε νῆά τ' ἐρύσθαι
 ἧδ' αὐτοὺς, ἵνα μήτις ὑπέκ κακότητος ἀλύξῃ.

Τόφρα δὲ μητέρ' ἔην, ματιῶν δόμον Λιήταο,
 Ἄργος παντοίοισι παρηγορέσκ' ἐπέεσσιν,
 Μήδειαν λίσσεσθαι ἀμυνέμεν· ἥ δὲ καὶ αὐτὴ
 πρόσθεν μητιάσκε· δέος δέ μιν ἴσχανε θυμόν,
 μή πως ἥδ' παρ' αἴσαν ἐτώσια μειλίξαιτο
 πατρὸς ἀτυζομένην ὅλοον χόλον, ἥδ' λιτῆσιν
 ἐσπαμένης ἀρίδηλα καὶ ἀμφαδὰ ἔργα πέλοιτο.

010

Καύρην δ' ἐξ ἀχέων ἰδυνὸς κατελώφεεν ὕπνος
 λέκτρῳ ἀνακλινθεῖσαν. ἄφαρ δέ μιν ἠπεροπῆες,
 οἷά τ' ἀκηχεμένην, ὅλοσι ἐρέθεσκον ὄνειροι,
 τὸν ξεῖνον δ' ἐδόκησεν ἰφειστάμεναι τὸν ἄεθλον,
 οὐτὶ μάλ' ὀρμαίνοντα δέρος κριοῖο κομίσσαι,
 οὐδὲ τι τοῖο ἔκρητι μετὰ πτόλιν Λιήταο
 ἐλθέμεν, ὅφρα δέ μιν σφέτερον δόμον εἰσαγάγοιτο
 κουριδίην παράκοιτιν· ἔλετο δ' ἀμφὶ βόεσσιν
 αὐτὴ ἀεθλεύονσα μιλ' εὐμαρέως πονέεσθαι
 σφωιτέρους δὲ τοκῆας ὑποσχεσίης ἠθερίζειν,
 οὐνεκεν οὐ κοῦρῃ ζεῦξαι βόας, ἀλλὰ οἱ αὐτῷ
 προὔθεσαν· ἐκ δ' ἄρα τοῦ πύκτος πέλεν ἀμφήριστον
 πατρί τε καὶ ξείνοισ'· αὐτῇ δ' ἐπιέτρεπον ἀμφῷ
 τῶς ἔμεν, ὥς κεν ἔῃσι μετὰ φρεσὶν ἰθύσειεν.
 ἥ δ' ἄφνω τὸν ξεῖνον, ἀφειδήσασα τοκῆων,
 εἶλετο· τοὺς δ' ἀμέγαρτον ἄχος λάβειν, ἐκ δ' ἐ-
 βόησαν

020

030

χωόμενοι· τὴν δ' ὕπνος ἄρα κλαγγῇ μεθέηκεν.
 παλλομένη δ' ἀνόρουσε φόβῳ, περὶ τ' ἀμφὶ τε τοί-
 χους

παύπτηνεν θαλάμοιο· μόλις δ' ἐσαγείρατο θυμόν
 ὥς πάρος ἐν στέρνοισ, ἰδυνὴν δ' ἀνετείκατο φωνήν·
 Δειλὴ ἐγών, οἷόν με βαρεῖς ἐφόβησαν ὄνειροι.
 δεῖδια, μή μέγα διή τι φέρῃ κακὸν ἦδε κέλευθος

ἠρώων. περί μοι ξέλω φρένες ἠερέθονται.
 μνάσθω ἐὼν κατὰ δῆμον Ἀχαιῖδα τηλόθι κούρην·
 ἄμμι δὲ παρθενίῃ τε μέλοι καὶ δῶμα τοκῆων.
 ἔμπα γε μὴν θεμέρῃ κίεον κέαρ, οὐκέτ' ἄνευθεν
 αὐτοκασυγνήτης πειρήσομαι, εἴ κέ μ' ἀέθλω
 χραισμεῖν ἠντιάσῃσιν, ἐπὶ σφετέροις ἀχέουσα
 παισί· τό κέν μοι λυγρὸν ἐνὶ κραδίῃ σβέσαι¹ ἄλγος.

640

Ἡ ῥα, καὶ ὀρθωθείσα θύρας ὤειξε δόμοιο,
 νήλιπος, οἶάναος· καὶ δὴ λελέητο νέεσθαι
 αὐτοκασυγνήτηνδε, καὶ ἔρκεος οὐδὲν ἄμειψεν.
 δὴν δὲ καταντόθι μέμνεν ἐνὶ προδόμῳ θαλάμοιο,
 αἰδοῖ ἐργομένη· μετὰ δ' ἐτράπετ' αὐτὶς ὀπίσσω
 στρεφθεῖσα· ἐκ δὲ πάλιν κίεν ἐνδοθεν, ἅψ τ' αἰλέ-

εινεν

650

εἶδω· τηῦσιν δὲ πίδες φέρον ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα·
 ἦται ὅτ' ἰθύσειεν, ἔρκε μιν ἐνδοθεν αἰδώς.
 αἰδοῖ δ' ἐργομένην θρασὺς ἱμερος ὀτρύνεσκεν.
 τρὶς μὲν ἐπειρήθη, τρὶς δ' ἔσχετο, τέτρτον αὐτὶς
 λέκτροισιν πρηγὴς ἐνικάππεσεν εἰλιχθεῖσα.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε τις νύμφη θαλερὸν πόσιν ἐν θαλάμοισιν
 μύρεται, ᾧ μιν ὕπασσαν ἀδελφεοὶ ἠδὲ τοκῆες,
 οὐδέ τί πω πάσαις ἐπιμίσγεται ἀμφιπύλοισιν
 αἰδοῖ ἐπιφροσύνη τε· μυχρὸν δ' ἀχέουσα θαίσσει·
 τὸν δὲ τις ὤλεσε μοῖρα, πάρος ταρπήμεναι ἄμφω
 δήμεσιν ἀλλήλων· ἢ δ' ἐνδοθὶ δαιομένη περ
 σῖγα μάλα κλαίει χῆρον λέχος εἰσορόωσα,
 μή μιν κερτομέουσai ἐπιστοβέωσι γυναῖκες·
 τῇ ἐκέλη Μήδεια κινύρετο. τὴν δὲ τις ἄφνω
 μυρομένην μεσσηγὺς ἐπιπρομολοῦσ' ἐνόησεν

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¹ σβέσαι: Μαννίγ: σβέσαι MSS.

Ἀργος, ἐπατρύνων με τεῖς πειρῆσαι ἡρωγῆς·
μεσοτηγνὸς μὲν τότε δόμοι λίπον ἐνθάδ' ἰοῦσα.¹

Ὡς φάτο· τῇ δ' ἔντοσθεν ἀνέπτατο χάρματι
θυμός,

φοινίχθη δ' ἄμυδις καλὸν χροῶ, καὶ δέ μιν ἰχλὺς
εἶλεν ἰαινομένην, τοῖον δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔειπεν·

Ἑλκίοπη, ὡς ὕμμι φίλον τερπνόν τε τέτυκται,
ὡς ἔρξω. μὴ γάρ μοι ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσι φαίνοι

ἦώς, μηδέ με θηρὸν ἔτι ζώουσας ἰδοιο,

εἰ γέ τι σῆς ψυχῆς προφερέστερον, ἢ τι παίδων 720

σῶν θεῖην, οἳ δὴ μοι ἀδελφείοι γεγάασιν,

κηδεμόνες τε φίλοι καὶ ὁμήλικες. ὡς δὲ καὶ αὐτῇ

φημί κασιγνήτη τε σέθεν κόρη τε πέλεσθαι,

ἴσον ἐπεὶ κείνοις με τεῷ ἐπαείρασ μαζῶ

νηπυτίην, ὡς αἰὲν ἐγὼ ποτε μητρὸς ἄκουον.

Ἄλλ' ἴθι, κεῖθε δ' ἐμὴν σιγῇ χάριν, ὅφρα τοκῆας
λίσσομαι ἐντύκονσα ὑπόσχεσιν· ἦρι δὲ νηὸς

πίσσωμαι¹ εἰς Ἑκκίτης θελκτῆρια φάρμακα ταύρων.

Ὡς ἦγ' ἐκ θαλάμοιο πύλιν κίε, παισὶ τ' ἡρωγὴν 740

αὐτοκασιγνήτης διεπέφραδε. τὴν δὲ μιν αὐτὴς²

αἰδέως τε στυγερῶν τε δέος λάβε μουνυθεῖσαν,

τοῖα παρέξ οὐ πατρὸς ἐπ' ἀνέρι μητιήσθαι.

Νῦξ μὲν ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ γαίαν ἤγεν κνέφας· οἳ δ'
ἐνὶ πόρτῳ

ναῦται³ εἰς Ἑλίκην τε καὶ Ἀστέρας Ὀρίωνος

ἔδρακον ἐκ νηῶν· ὕπνοιο δὲ καὶ τις ὀδύτης

ἦδη καὶ πυλαῶρὸς ἐέλθετο· καὶ τινα παίδων

μητέρα τεθνεώτων Ἀδινὸν περὶ κῶμ' ἐκάλυπτεν·

¹ πίσσωμαι L. After this there occurs in scholia as a variant the line αἰετομένη ζῆλον ὅπῃ οὐ τότε κείνοι θύοντ.
² καὶ αὐτὴ ἀπὸ μεταῖται have been conjectured.

³ ναυτίλοι ὕπνοιο.

μοῖρα πέλει. πῶς γάρ κεν ἐμούς λελάθοιμι τοκῆας
 φάρμακα μησαμένα; ποῖον δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἐνίψω; 780
 τίς δὲ δόλος, τίς μῆτις ἐπὶ κλοπος ἔσσειτ' ἀρωγῆς;
 ἢ μιν ἀνευθ' ἐτέρων προσπτύξομαι οἷον ἰδοῦσα;
 δύσμορος οὐ μὲν ἔολπα καταφθιμένοιό περ ἔμπτῃς
 λωφῆσειν ἀχέων· τότε δ' ἂν κακὸν ἄμμι πέλοιτο,
 κεῖνος ὅτε ζωῆς ὑπαμείρεται. ἔρρέτω αἰδώς,
 ἔρρέτω ἀγλαΐη ὃ δ' ἐμῇ ἰότητι σωθῆλες
 ἀσκηθῆς, ἵνα οἱ θυμῷ φίλον, ἔνθα νέοιτο.
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν αὐτῆμαρ, ὅτ' ἐξανύσειεν ἀέθλον,
 τεθναίνην, ἢ λαιμὸν ἀναρτήσασα μελιΐθρην,
 ἢ καὶ πασσαμένα ραιστήριον φάρμακα θυμοῦ. 790
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς φθιμένη μοι ἐπιλλίξουσιν ὀπίσσω
 κερτομέας· τηλοῦ δὲ πόλις περὶ πᾶσα βροῆσει
 πότμον ἐμόν· καὶ κέν με διὰ στόματος φορέουσιν
 Κολχίδες ἄλλυδις ἄλλαι· ἀεικέα μωμήσονται
 ἦτις κηδομένη τόσον ἰνέρος ἀλλοδαποῖο
 κἀθανεν, ἦτις δῶμα καὶ αὐτὴν ἥσχυσε τοκῆας,
 μαργουσύνῃ εἴξασα. τί δ' οὐκ ἐμόν ἔσσεται αἰσχρός;
 ὃ μοι ἐμῆς αἵτης. ἢ τ' ἂν πολὺ κέρδιον εἴη
 τῇδ' αὐτῇ ἐν νυκτὶ λιπεῖν βίον ἐν θαλάμοισιν
 πότμῳ ἀνωίστῳ, κἄκ' ἐλέγχεα πάντα φυγοῦσαν, 800
 πρὶν τάδε λωβήεντα καὶ οὐκ ὀνομαστά τελέσσαι.

Ἦ, καὶ φωριαμὸν μετεκίαθην, ἢ ἐνὶ πολλὰ
 φάρμακά οἱ, τὰ μὲν ἐσθλά, τὰ δὲ ραιστήρι', ἔκειτο.
 ἐνθεμένη δ' ἐπὶ γούνατ' ὀδύρετο. δεῦτε δὲ κόλπους
 ἀλληκτον δακρύοισι, τὰ δ' ἔρρεεν ἀσταγὲς αὐτῶς,
 αἶν' ὀλοφυρομένης τὸν ἐὼν μόρον. Ἰετο δ' ἦγε
 φάρμακα λέξασθαι θυμοφθόρα, τόφρα πύσαιτο.
 ἦδη καὶ δεσμοὺς ἀνελύετο φωριαμοῖο,
 ἐξελέειν μεμαινῖα, δυσάμμορος. ἀλλὰ οἱ ἄφνω

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could I prepare the charms without my parents' knowledge? What story can I tell them? What trick, what cunning device for aid can I find? If I see him alone, apart from his comrades, shall I greet him? Ill-starred that I am! I cannot hope that I should rest from my sorrows even though he perished; then will evil come to me when he is bereft of life. Perish all shame, perish all glory; may he, saved by my effort, go senseless wherever his heart desires. But as for me, on the day when he hides the contest in triumph, may I die either straining my neck in the noose from the roof-tree or tasting drugs destructive of life. But even so, when I am dead, they will sling out taunts against me; and every city far away will ring with my doom, and the Colchian women, tossing my name on their lips hither and thither, will revile me with unseemly mocking—the maid who cared so much for a stranger that she died, the maid who disgraced her home and her parents, yielding to a mad passion. And what disgrace will not be mine? Alas for my infatuation! Far better would it be for me to forsake life this very night in my chamber by some mysterious fate, escaping all slanderous reproach, before I complete such nameless dishonour."

She spoke, and brought a casket wherein lay many drugs, some for healing, others for killing, and placing it upon her knees she wept. And she drenched her bosom with ceaseless tears, which flowed in torrents as she sat, bitterly bewailing her own fate. And she longed to choose a murderous drug to taste it, and now she was loosening the bands of the casket eager to take it forth, unhappy maid! But suddenly a deadly fear of

δεῖμ' ὀλοὸν στυγεροῖο κατὰ φρένας ἦλθ' Ἀΐδαο.
ἔσχετο δ' ἀμφασίῃ θηρὸν χρόνον, ἀμφὶ δὲ πᾶσαι
θυμηδαῖς βιότοιο μεληδόνες ἰνδάλλοντο.

810

μνήσατο μὲν τερπνῶν, ὅσ' ἐνὶ ζωοῖσι πέλονται,
μνήσαθ' ὀμηλικῆς περιγηθείας, οἷά τε κούρη'
καὶ τέ οἱ ἡέλιος γλυκίων γένετ' εἰσοράασθαι,
ἢ πάρος, εἰ ἐτεόν γε νόφ' ἐπεμαίεθ' ἕκαστα.
καὶ τὴν μὲν ῥα πάλιν σφετέρων ἀποκátθετο
γούνων,

"Ἦρῃς ἐννεσίῃσι μετάτροπος, οὐδ' ἔτι βουλὰς
ἄλλῃ δοιάζεσκεν' ἐέλδετο δ' αἶψα φανῆναι
ἡῶ τελλομένην, ἴσα οἱ θελκτῆρια δοίῃ
φάρμακα συνθεσίῃσι, καὶ ἀντίσειεν ἐς ὠπὴν.
πυκνὰ δ' ἰνὰ κληΐδας ἐὼν λύσκεο θυράων,
αἰγλήν σκεπτομένην τῇ δ' ἀσπᾶσιον βάλε φέγγος
Ἦρυγενῆς, κίρυντο δ' ἰνὰ πτολίεθρον ἕκαστοι.

820

"Ἐνθα κασιγνήτους μὲν ἔτ' αὐτόθι μέναι ἀνώγει
Ἄργος, ἵνα φράζονται νόον καὶ μῆδεα κούρης·
αὐτὸς δ' αὐτ' ἐπὶ νῆα κίεν προπάροιθε λιασθεῖς.

Ἦ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τὰ πρῶτα φαινομένην ἶδεν ἡῶ
παρθενική, ξανθὰς μὲν ἀντήφατο χερσὶν ἐθείρας,
αἱ οἱ ἀτημελίῃ κατακειμέναι ἡερέθοντο,
αὐσταλείας δ' ἔφησε παρηΐδας· αὐτὰρ ἄλοιφῃ
νεκταρέῃ φαιδρύνετ' ἐπὶ χροά· δῶκε δὲ πέπλον
καλόν, εὐγνάμπτοισιν ἀρηρέμενον περόνῃσιν
ἀμβροσίῳ δ' ἐφύπερθε καρήατι βιάλλε καλύπτρην
ἀργυφέην. αὐτοῦ δὲ δόμοις ἐνὶ δινεύουσα
στεῖβε πέδον λήθη Ἀχέων, τά οἱ ἐν ποσσὶν ἦεν
θεσπέσι', ἄλλα τ' ἔμελλεν ἀεξήσεσθαι ὀπίσσω.
κέκλετο δ' ἀμφιπόλοισι, αἱ οἱ δυοκαίδεκα πᾶσαι
ἐν προδόμῳ θαλάμοιο θυώδεος ἡύλίζοντο

830

ἦλκες, αὖπ'ω λέκτρα σὺν ἀνδράσι πορσύνουσαι, 840
 ἐσσυμένως οὐρήας ὑποζεύξασθαι ἀπήνη,
 οἳ κέ μιν εἰς Ἑκάτης περικαλλέα νηὸν ἄγοιεν.
 ἐνθ' αὖτ' ἀμφίπολοι μὲν ἐφοπλίζεσκον ἀπήνην·
 ἡ δὲ τέως γλαφυρῆς ἐξείλετο φουριαμοῖο
 φάρμακον, ὃ ρά τέ φασι Προμήθειον καλέεσθαι.
 τῷ εἰ κ' ἐννυχίοισιν ἀρεσσάμενος θυέσσιν
 Κούρην¹ μονογένηϊαν ἐὼν δέμας ἱκμαίνοντο,
 ἢ τ' αὖ ὅγ' οὔτε ρηκτὸς ἔοι χαλκοῖο τυτῆσιν,
 οὔτε κεν αἰσθάνω πυρὶ εἰκάσθαι· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀλκῇ
 λωότερος κεῖν' ἤμαρ ὁμῶς κέρτει τε πέλοιτο. 850
 πρωτοφυῆς τόγ' ἀνέσχε καταστάξαςτος ἔραζε
 αἰετοῦ ὠμηστέω κνημοῖς ἐνι Καυκασίοισιν
 αἵματόεντ' ἰχώρα Προμηθῆος μογεροῖο.
 τοῦ δ' ἦτοι ἄνθος μὲν ὅσον πήχυιον ὑπερθεν
 χροῖῃ Κωρυκίῳ ἱκέλον κρόκῳ ἐξεφαάνθη,
 καυλοῖσιν διδύμοισιν ἐπήρορον· ἡ δ' ἐνὶ γαίῃ
 σαρκὶ νεοτμήτῳ ἐναλιγκίῃ ἔπλετο ῥίζα.
 τῆς οἶον τ' ἐν ὄρεσσι κελαινὴν ἱκμάδα φηγεῖν
 Κασπίῃ ἐν κόχλῳ ἀμήσατο φαρμάσσεσθαι,
 ἐπτά μὲν ἀνάνοισι λοεσσαμένη ὑδάτεσσιν, 860
 ἐπτάκι δὲ Βριμῷ κουροτρόφον ἀγκαλέσασα,
 Βριμῷ νυκτιπόλον, χθονίην, ἐνέροισιν ἀνασσαν,
 λυγαίῃ ἐνὶ νυκτί, σὺν ὀρφναίοις φαρέεσσιν.
 μυκηθμῷ δ' ὑπέρθεν ἐρεμνῇ σείετο γαῖα,
 ῥίξης τεμνομένης Γυττηνίδος· ἔστανε δ' αὐτὸς
 Ἰαπετοῖο πᾶσι ὀδύνη πέρι θυμὸν ἄλυσον.
 τό ῥ' ἦγ' ἐξανελούσα θυώδει κήθητο μήτρη,
 ἦτε οἱ ἀμβροσίοισι περὶ στήθεσσιν ἔερτο.
 ἐκ δὲ θύραζε κιοῦσα θεῆς ἐπεβήσατ' ἀπήνης·
 σὺν δὲ αἱ ἀμφίπολοι δοαὶ ἐκάτερθεν ἔβησαν. 870

¹ Κούρην] Δαίτην G, 30101.

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her right hand the well-fashioned whip, and drove through the city ; and the rest, the handmaids, laid their hands on the chariot behind and ran along the broad highway ; and they kilted up their light robes above their white knees. And even as by the mild waters of Parthenius, or after bathing in the river Amnisus, Leto's daughter stands upon her golden chariot and courses over the hills with her swift-footed roes, to greet from afar some richly-steaming hecatomb ; and with her come the nymphs in attendance, gathering, some at the spring of Amnisus itself, others by the glens and many-fountained peaks ; and round her whine and fawn the beasts cowering as she moves along : thus they sped through the city ; and on both sides the people gave way, shunning the eyes of the royal maiden. But when she had left the city's well paved streets, and was approaching the shrine as she drove over the plains, then she alighted eagerly from the smooth-running chariot and spake as follows among her maidens :

" Friends, verily have I sinned greatly and took no heed not to go among the stranger-folk¹ who roam over our land. The whole city is smitten with dismay ; wherefore no one of the women who formerly gathered here day by day has now come hither. But since we have come and no one else draws near, come, let us satisfy our souls without stint with soothing song, and when we have plucked the fair flowers amid the tender grass, that very hour will we

¹ or, reading *phrig'*, " took no heed of the cause of wrath with the stranger-folk "

καὶ δέ κε σὺν πολλέσσιν ἀνείασιν οἰκαδ' ἴκοισθε 900
 ἡματι τῷ, εἰ μοι συναρέσσετε τήνδε μενοιμήν.
 Ἄργος γάρ μ' ἐπέεσσι παρατρέπει, ὥς δὲ καὶ αὐτὴ
 Χαλκιόπη· τὰ δὲ σῖγα νόῳ ἔχει· εἰσαλόνσαι
 ἐξ ἐμέθεν, μὴ πατρὸς ἐς οὖατα μῦθος ἴκηται.
 τὸν ξεῖνόν με κέλονται, ὅτις περὶ θουστὸν ὑπέστη,
 δῶρ' ἀποδεξαμένην ὁλοῶν ῥύσασθαι ἰέθλων.
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τὸν μῦθον ἐπήνεον, ἥδὲ καὶ αὐτὸν
 κέκλωμαι εἰς ὥπην ἐτάρων ἀπο μῶνον ἰκέσθαι,
 ὅφρα τὰ μὲν δασόμεσθα μετὰ σφίσιν, εἰ κεν ὀπίσσω
 δῶρα φέρων, τῷ δ' αὖτε κακώτερον ἄλλο πόρωμεν 910
 φάρμακον. ἀλλ' ἀπονόσφι πέλεσθέ μοι, εὖτ' ἂν ἴκη-
 ται.'

*Ὡς ἡῶδα· πάσῃσι δ' ἐπὶ κλοπῇς ἠνδανε μῆτις.
 αὐτίκα δ' Ἀλκωνίδην ἐτάρων ἀπο μῶνον ἐρύσας
 Ἄργος, ὅτ' ἤδη τήνδε κασιγνήτων ἐσάκουσεν
 ἡερὶν Ἐκίτης ἱερὸν μετὰ νηὸν ἰούσαν,
 ἦγε διέκ πεδίου· ἅμα δὲ σφίσιν εἶπετο Μόψος
 Ἀμπυκίδης, ἐσθλὸς μὲν ἐπεπροφανέντας ἐμισπεῖν
 οἰωνούς, ἐσθλὸς δὲ σὺν εὖ φρύσσασθαι ἰούσιν.

*Εὖθ' οὕτω τις τοῖας ἐπὶ προτέρων γένετ' ἑνδρώων,
 οὗθ' ὅσοι ἐξ αὐτοῖο Διὸς γένος, οὗθ' ὅσοι ἄλλων 920
 ἀθανάτων ἦρως ἀφ' αἵματος ἐβλήσθησαν,
 οἶον Ἰήσωνα θῆκε Διὸς δάμαρ ἡματι κείνῃ
 ἡμὲν ἐσάντα ἰδεῖν, ἥδὲ προτιμυθήσασθαι.
 τὸν καὶ παπταίνοντες ἐβίμβρεον αὐτοὶ ἐταῖροι
 λαμπόμενοι χαρίτεσσιν ἐγήθησεν δὲ κελεύθῳ
 Ἀμπυκίδης, ἡδὴ πον ὁλοσύμενος τὰ ἕκαστα.

*Ἔστι δέ τις πεδίοιο κατὰ στίβον ἐγγύθι νηοῦ
 αἰγυριος φύλλοισιν ἀπειρεσίοις κομόωσα,
 τῇ θαμὰ δὴ λακέρυξαι ἐπηυλίζοντο κορώναι.

τάνων τις μεσσηγύς ἀνὰ πτερὰ κινήσασα
 ἰψοῦ ἐπ' ἀκρεμόνων Ἥρῃ ἠνέπαπε βουλὰς
 Ἄκλειῆς δ' αὖε μάντις, ὅς οὐδ' ὅσα παῖδες ἴσασιν
 οἶδε νόῳ φράσσασθαι, ὀθύνεκεν οὔτε τι λαρὸν
 οὔτ' ἐρατὸν κούρη κεν ἔπος προτιμυθήσαιο
 ἡθέφρ, εἴτ' ἂν σφιν ἐπὶ ἡλυδες ἄλλοι ἔπωνται.
 ἔρροις, ὦ κυκόμεντι, κακοφραδέν· οὔτε σε Κύπρις,
 οὔτ' ἀγαυοὶ φιλέοντες ἐπιπνέουσιν Ἑρῶτες.
 Ἴσκειν ἀτεμβρομένη· μέλδῃσε δὲ Μόψος ἀκούσας
 ὀμφὴν οἰωνοῖο θεήλατον, ᾧ δέ τ' ἔειπεν
 Ὀύνη μὲν ἠγόνδε θεᾶς ἴθι, τῷ ἔνι κούρη
 δῆεις, Λίσονιδῃ· μάλ' αὖτ' ἡπὶρ ἀντιβολήσεις
 Κύπριδος ἐννεσίης, ἥ τοι συνέριβος ἀέθλων
 ἔσσεται, ὡς δὴ καὶ πρὶν Ἀγηνορίδης φάτο Φινεύς.
 νῦν δ', ἐγὼν Ἀργὸς τε, δεδογμένοι, εἴτ' ἂν ἔκηαι.
 τῷ δ' αὐτῷ ἐνὶ χώρῃ ἀπεσσομένθ'· οἴωθι δ' αὐτὸς
 λίσσεό μιν πυκννοῖσι παρατροπέων ἐπέεσσιν.
 Ἦ ῥα περιφραδέως, ἐπὶ δὲ σχεδὸν ἦνεον ἄμφω.
 οὐδ' ἄρα Μηδείης θυμὸς τράπετ' ἄλλα νοῆσαι,
 μελπομένης περ ὅμως· πᾶσαι δέ οἱ, ἦντιν' ἀθύροι
 μολπήν, οὐκ ἐπὶ δηρὸν ἐφήμδανεν ἐψιάσθαι.
 ἀλλὰ μεταλλήγεσκεν ἀμύχανος, οὐδέ ποτ' ὕσσε
 ἀμφιπόλων μεθ' ὁμίλον ἔχ' ἀτρέμας ἐς δὲ κελεύθους
 τηλόσε παπταίνεσκε, παρυκλίνουσα παρειάς.
 ἦ θαμὰ δὴ στηθέων ἐύγη κέαρ, ὅππότε δοῦπον
 ἢ ποδὸς ἢ ἀνέμοιο παραθρέξαντα δοῖσσαι.
 αὐτὰρ ὃγ' οὐ μετὰ δηρὸν ἐλδομέτη ἐφαάνθη
 ἑψὺς ἀναθρόσκων ἄτε Σείριος Ὠκεανοῖο,
 ὅς δὴ τοι καλὸς μὲν ἀρίστηλός τ' ἐσιδέσθαι
 ἀντέλλει, μήλοισι δ' ἐν ἄσπετον ἦκεν οἰζύν·
 ὥς ἄρα τῇ καλὸς μὲν ἐπὶ ἡλυθεν εἰσορᾶσθαι
 Λίσονιδος, κίματον δὲ δυσίμεραν ὥρσε φαινθεῖς.

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of them meantime as she clapped her wings aloft in the branches uttered the counsels of Hera :

"What a pitiful seer is this, that has not the wit to conceive even what children know, how that no maiden will say a word of sweetness or love to a youth when strangers be near. Begone, sorry prophet, witless one ; on thee neither Cypris nor the gentle Loves breathe in their kindness."

She spake chiding, and Mopsus smiled to hear the god-sent voice of the bird, and thus addressed them : "Do thou, son of Aeson, pass on to the temple, where thou wilt find the maiden ; and very kind will her greeting be to thee through the prompting of Cypris, who will be thy helpmate in the contest, even as Phineus, Agenor's son, foretold. But we two, Argus and I, will await thy return, apart in this very spot ; do thou all alone be a suppliant and win her over with prudent words."

He spake wisely, and both at once gave approval. Nor was Medea's heart turned to other thoughts, for all her singing, and never a song that she essayed pleased her long in her sport. But in confusion she ever faltered, nor did she keep her eyes resting quietly upon the throng of her handmaids ; but to the paths far off she strained her gaze, turning her face aside. Oft did her heart sink fainting within her bosom whenever she fancied she heard passing by the sound of a footfall or of the wind. But soon he appeared to her longing eyes, striding along loftily, like Sirius coming from ocean, which rises fair and clear to see, but brings unspeakable mischief to flocks ; thus then did Aeson's son come to her, fair to see, but the sight of him brought love-sick

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

care. Her heart fell from out her bosom, and a dark mist came over her eyes, and a hot blush covered her cheeks. And she had no strength to lift her knees backwards or forwards, but her feet beneath were rooted to the ground; and meantime all her handmaidens had drawn aside. So they two stood face to face without a word, without a sound, like corks or lofty pines, which stand quietly side by side on the mountains when the wind is still; then again, when stirred by the breath of the wind, they murmur senselessly; so they two were destined to tell out all their tale, stirred by the breath of Love. And Aeson's son saw that she had fallen into some heaven-sent calamity, and with soothing words thus addressed her:

"Why, pray, maiden, dost thou fear me so much, all alone as I am? Never was I one of these idle boasters such as other men are—not even aforetime, when I dwelt in my own country. Wherefore, maiden, be not too much abashed before me, either to enquire whatever thou wilt or to speak thy mind. But since we have met one another with friendly hearts, in a hallowed spot, where it is wrong to sin, speak openly and ask questions, and beguile me not with pleasing words, for at the first thou didst promise thy sister to give me the charms my heart desires. I implore thee by Hecate herself, by thy parents, and by Zeus who holds his guardian hand over strangers and suppliants; I come here to thee both a suppliant and a stranger, bending the knee in my sore need. For without thee and thy sister never shall I prevail in the grievous contest. And to thee will I render thanks hereafter for thy aid, as is right and fitting for men who dwell far off,

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making glorious thy name and fame ; and the rest of the heroes, returning to Hellas, will spread thy renown and so will the heroes' wives and mothers, who now perhaps are sitting on the shore and making moan for us ; their painful affliction thou mightest scatter to the winds. In days past the maiden Ariadne, daughter of Minos, with kindly intent rescued Theseus from grim contests—the maiden whom Pasiphae daughter of Helios bore. But she, when Minos had lulled his wrath to rest, went aboard the ship with him and left her fatherland ; and her even the immortal gods loved, and, as a sign in mid-sky, a crown of stars, which men call Ariadne's crown, rolls along all night among the heavenly constellations. So to thee too shall be thanks from the gods, if thou wilt save so mighty an array of chieftains. For surely from thy lovely form thou art like to excel in gentle courtesy."

Thus he spake, honouring her ; and she cast her eyes down with a smile divinely sweet ; and her soul melted within her, uplifted by his praise, and she gazed upon him face to face ; nor did she know what word to utter first, but was eager to pour out everything at once. And forth from her fragrant girdle ungrudgingly she brought out the clasp ; and he at once received it in his hands with joy. And she would even have drawn out all her soul from her breast and given it to him, exulting in his desire ; so wonderfully did love flash forth a sweet flame from the golden head of Aeson's son ; and he captivated her gleaming eyes ; and her heart within grew warm, melting away as the dew melts away round roses when warmed by the morning's light. And now both

ἄμφω δ' ἄλλοτε μὲν τε κατ' οὐδὲος ὄμματ' ἔρειδον
αἰδόμενοι, ὅτε δ' αὖτις ἐπὶ σφίσι βάλλον ὤπωπας,
ἱμερδέν φαιδρήσιν ὑπ' ὀφρύσι μειδιῶντες.

ὅψε δὲ δὴ τοίοισι μόλις προσπύξατο καύρη·

ὦ φράζεο νῦν, ὥς κέν τοι ἐγὼ μητίσομ' ἄρωγιν.

εὖτ' ἂν δὴ μετιόντι πατὴρ ἐμὸς ἐγγυαλίξῃ

ἐξ ὀφίος γενύων ὀλοσὺς σπείρασθαι ὀδύνας,

δὴ τότε μέσσην εὐκτα διαμμοιρηδὰ φυλάξας,

ἄκαμάτοιο ῥῶσι λοεσσάμενος ποταμοῖο,

οἷος ἄνευθ' ἄλλων ἐνὶ φύρεσι κυανέοισιν

βόθρον ὀρύξασθαι περιηγέα· τῷ δ' ἐνὶ θῆλυν

ἀρνειὸν σφάζειν, καὶ ἡδαίετον ἁμοθετῆσαι,

αὐτῷ πυρκαϊὴν εὖ νηήσας ἐπὶ βόθρῳ.

μουνογενὴ δ' Ἐκάτην Ἱερσηίδα μειλίσσοιο,

λείβων ἐκ δέπας σιμβλήμα ἔργα μελίσσων.

ἐνθα δ' ἐπεὶ κε θεὰν μεμνημένος ἰλάσσηται,

ἄψ' ἀπὸ πυρκαϊῆς ἀναχάζεο· μηδὲ σε δοῦπος

ἢ ποδῶν ὀρῇσι μεταστρεφθῆναι ὀπίσσω,

ἢ κυνῶν ὕλακῃ, μή πως τὰ ἕκαστα κολούσας

οὐδ' αὐτὸς κατὰ κόσμον ἐοῖς ἐτύραιοι πελάσσης.

ἦρι δὲ μυθήνας τόδε φάρμακον, ἧγύτ' ἡλοιφῇ

γυμνωθεὶς φαίδρυνε τὸν δέμας· ἐν δέ οἱ ἄλκῃ

ἔσσειτ' ἀπειρεσίῃ μέγα τε σθένος, οὐδέ κε φαίης

ἀνδρῶσιν, ἀλλὰ θεοῖσιν ἰσαζέμεν ἀθανάτοισιν.

πρὸς δὲ καὶ αὐτῷ δουρὶ σύκος πεπαλαγμένον ἔστω

καὶ ξίφος. ἐνθ' οὐκ ἂν σε διατμήξειαν ἄκωκαὶ

γῆγενέων ἀνδρῶν, οὐδ' ἄσχετος ἄισσουσα

φλόξ ὀλοῶν ταύρων. τοῖός γε μὲν οὐκ ἐπὶ δῆρ' ὄν

ἔσσειαι, ἀλλ' αὐτῇμαρ· ὁμῶς σύγ γε μὴ ποτ' ἀέθλου

χάζεο. καὶ δέ τοι ἄλλο παρὲξ ὑποθήσομ' ὄνειαρ.

αὐτίκ' ἐπὴν κρατεροὺς ζεύξης βόας, ὧκα δὲ πᾶσαν

χερσὶ καὶ ἥνορέῃ στυφελὴν ἐπὶ νειῶν ἀρόσσης,

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

were fixing their eyes on the ground abashed, and again were throwing glances at each other, smiling with the light of love beneath their radiant brows. And at last and scarcely then did the maiden greet him :

" Take heed now, that I may devise help for thee. When at thy coming my father has given thee the deadly teeth from the dragon's jaws for sowing, then watch for the time when the night is parted in twain, then bathe in the stream of the tireless river, and alone, apart from others, clad in dusky raiment, dig a rounded pit ; and therein slay a ewe, and sacrifice it whole, heaping high the pyre on the very edge of the pit. And propitiate only-begotten Hecate, daughter of Perses, pouring from a goblet the hive-stored labour of bees. And then, when thou hast heedfully sought the grace of the goddess, retreat from the pyre ; and let neither the sound of feet drive thee to turn back, nor the baying of hounds, lest haply thou shouldst ruin all the rites and thyself fail to return duly to thy comrades. And at dawn steep this charm in water, strip, and anoint thy body therewith as with oil ; and in it there will be boundless prowess and mighty strength, and thou wilt deem thyself a match not for men but for the immortal gods. And besides, let thy spear and shield and sword be sprinkled. Thereupon the spear-heads of the earthborn men shall not pierce thee, nor the flame of the deadly bulls as it rushes forth resistless. But such thou shalt be not for long, but for that one day ; still never flinch from the contest. And I will tell thee besides of yet another help. As soon as thou hast yoked the strong oxen, and with thy might and thy prowess

οἱ δ' ἤδη κατὰ ὄλκας ἀνασταχέωσι Γίγαντες
 σπειρομένων ὄφιος δυοφερὴν ἐπὶ βῶλον ὀδόντων,
 αἱ κεν ὀρινομένους πολέας νεοῖο δοκεύσῃς,
 λίθρῃ λάσπ' ἄφες στιβαρώτερον· οἱ δ' ἀν' ἐπ' αὐτῷ,
 καρχαλέοι κύνες ὥστε περὶ βρώμῃς, ὀλέκοιεν
 ἀλλήλους· καὶ δ' αὐτὸς ἐπείγῃσι δημοτῆτος
 ἰθῦσαι· τὸ δὲ κῶας ἐς Ἑλλάδα τοιοῦτο γ' ἔκῃσι
 οἴσσαι ἐξ Αἴης τηλοῦ ποθεν· ἴσσεο δ' ἔμπης,
 ἧ φίλον, ἧ τοι ἔαδεν ἀφόρμηθέντι νέεσθαι.

1000

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ σίγα ποδῶν πάρος ὅσσε βαλοῦσα
 θεσπέσιον λιανοῖσι παρηίδα δάκρυσι δεῦν
 μυρομένη, ὃ τ' ἐμελλεν ἀπόπροθι πολλὸν ἰοῖο
 πόντον ἐπιπλάγξασθαι· ἀνιηρὴ δέ μιν ἄντην
 ἐξαῦτις μύθῳ προσεφώνεεν, εἰλέ τε χειρὸς
 δεξιτερῆς· δὴ γάρ οἱ ἀπ' ὀφθαλμοῦς λίπεν αἰδώς·

Μνώεο δ', ἦν ἄρα δὴ ποθ' ὑπὸ τροπὸς οἴκαδ'
 ἵκηαι,

οὔνομα Μηδείης· ὥς δ' αὐτ' ἐγὼ ἀμφὶς ἐόντος
 μνήσομαι· εἰπὲ δέ μοι πρόφρων τόδε, πῇ τοι ἔασιν
 δώματα, πῇ νῦν ἔνθεν ὑπεῖρ ἅλα νηὶ περήσεις·
 ἦ νύ που ἀφνειοῦ σχεδὸν ἵξεαι Ὀρχομενοῖο,
 ἔε καὶ Αἰαίης νήσου πέλας; εἰπὲ δὲ κούρην,
 ἦντινα τῇνδ' ὀνόμηνας ἀριγνώτην γεγαυῖαν
 Πασίφαιης, ἧ πατρός ὁμόγυνός ἐστιν ἐμεῖο.

1070

Ὡς φάτο· τὸν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸν ὑπήγε δάκρυσι
 κούρης

αἶλος Ἑκώς, τοῖον δὲ παραβλήδην ἔπος ηὔδα·

Καὶ λίην οὐ νύκτας οἴομαι, οὐδέ ποτ' ἤμαρ
 σεῦ ἐπιλήσεσθαι, προφυγῶν μόνον, εἰ ἐτεόν γε
 φεύξομαι ἡσκηθῆς ἐς Ἀχαΐδα, μηδέ τιν' ἄλλον
 Λιήτης προβάλῃσι κακώτερον ἄμμεν ἔεθλον.

1080

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

hast ploughed all the stubborn fallow, and now along the furrows the Giants are springing up, when the serpent's teeth are sown on the dusky clods, if thou markest them uprising in throngs from the fallow, cast unseen among them a mussy stone; and they over it, like ravening hounds over their food, will slay one another; and do thou thyself hasten to rush to the battle-strife, and the fleece thereupon thou shalt bear far away from Aen; nevertheless, depart wherever thou wilt, or thy pleasure takes thee, when thou hast gone hence."

Thus she spake, and cast her eyes to her feet in silence, and her cheek, divinely fair, was wet with warm tears as she sorrowed for that he was about to wander far from her side over the wide sea: and once again she addressed him face to face with mournful words, and took his right hand; for now shame had left her eyes:

"Remember, if haply thou returnest to thy home, Medea's name; and so will I remember thine, though thou be far away. And of thy kindness tell me this, where is thy home, whither wilt thou sail hence in thy ship over the sea; wilt thou come near wealthy Orchomenus, or near the Aegean isle? And tell me of the maiden, whosoever she be that thou hast named, the far-renowned daughter of Pasiphae, who is kinswoman to my father."

Thus she spake; and over him too, at the tears of the maiden, stole Love the destroyer, and he thus answered her:

"All too surely do I deem that never by night and never by day will I forget thee if I escape death and indeed make my way in safety to the Achaean land, and Aeetes set not before us some other

ἐνθένδ' εἰς Ἰωλκὸν ἀναρπάξασαι ἔελλαι,
ὄφρα σ', ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἐλεγχείας προφέρουσα,
μῆσσω ἐμῇ ἰότητι πεφιγμένον· αἶθε γὰρ εἶην
ἄπροφάτως τότε σοῖσιν ἐφέστιος ἐν μαγάρουσιν·

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, ἐλκεῖνὰ καταπροχέουσα παρειῶν
δακρυα· τὴν δ' ὄγε δῆθεν ὑποβλήδην προσείπεν·
Ἰδαιμονίη, κενεῶς κέν ἔα πλῆξσθαι ἀέλλας,
ὥς δέ καὶ ἀγγελὸν ὄρνειν, ἐπεὶ μεταμῦνα βάξεις.
εἰ δέ κεν ἦθεα κείνα καὶ Ἰλλυίδα γαῖαν ἱκται,
τιμήσσω γυναιξὶ καὶ ἀνδράσιν αἰδοίῃ τε
ἔσσεαι· οἱ δέ σε πᾶγχυ θεὸν ὥς πορσανέουσιν,
οὐνεκα τῶν μὲν παῖδες ὑπότηροποι οἴκαδ' ἵκοντο
σῇ βουλῇ, τῶν δ' αὖτε κασίγνητοί τε ἔται τε
καὶ θαλεροὶ κακότητος ἄδην ἐσάωθεν ἀκοῖται.
ἡμέτερον δὲ λέχος θαλάμοις ἐνὶ κουριδίοισιν
πορσυνέεις· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔμε διακρινέει φιλύτητος

ἄλλο, πύρος θάνατόν γε μεμνημένον ἡμφικαλύνει·

Ὡς φάτο· τῇ δ' ἔντασθε κατείβητο θυμὸς ἀκουῇ,
ἔμπης δ' ἔργ' αἰδέηλα κατερρίγησεν ἰδέσθαι.
σχετλίη· οὐ μὲν δηρὸν ἀπαρνήσεσθαι ἔμελλεν
Ἰλλυίδα ναυτιέειν· ὥς γὰρ τότε μῆδετο Ἥρη,
ὄφρα κακὸν Πελίῃ ἱερῇ ἐς Ἰωλκὸν ἵκοντο
Αἰαίῃ Μήδεια, λιποῦσ' ἀπο πατρίδα γαῖαν.

Ἦδη δ' ἀμφίπολοι μὲν ὑπιπεύουσαι ἄπωθεν
συνῇ ἀνιάζουσιν· ἐδένετο δ' ἡματος ὤρη
ἄψ' οἰκόνδε κέεσθαι ἔην μετὰ μητέρα κούρην.
ἡ δ' οὐπω κομιδῇς μιμνήσκετο, τέρπετο γάρ οἱ
θυμὸς ὁμῶς μορφῇ τε καὶ αἰμυλίοισι λόγοισιν,
αἰ μὴ ἄρ' Αἰσωνίδης πεφυλαγμένος ὀφεί περ ἠῦδα·
Ἥρη ἀποβλώσκειν, μὴ πρὶν φάος ἡελίοιο
δύη ὑποφθάμενον, καὶ τις τὰ ἕκαστα νοήσῃ
ὀνείων· αὐτίς δ' ἀβολήσομεν ἐνθάδ' ἰόντες·

πήχυνον δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα πένδω ἐνὶ βύθρον ὀρύξας
 νήησε σχίζας, ἐπὶ δ' ἀρκείου τάμε λαιμόν,
 αὐτόν τ' εὖ καθύπερθε ταυύσσαστο· δαίε δὲ φειτροὺς
 πῦρ ὑπένερθεν ίείε, ἐπὶ δὲ μεγάδας χέε λοιβίας,
 Βριμῶ κυκλήσκων Ἑκάτην ἐπαρωγὸν ἀέθλων.
 καὶ ῥ' ὁ μὲν ἀγκαλέσας πάλιν ἔστιχεν· ἡ δ' ἰλίους
 κευθμῶν ἐξ ὑπιάτων δεινὴ θεὸς ἀντεβόλησεν
 ἱροῖς Αἰσονίδας· πέριξ δέ μιν ἔστεφάνωντο
 σμερδαλέοι δρυῖνοισι μετὰ πτόρθοισι δρῖκοντες·
 στράπτε δ' ἀπειρέσιον δαΐδων σέλας· ἀμφὶ δὲ τήνγῃ
 ὀξείῃ ὑλακῇ χθόνοι κύκας ἐφθέγγοντο.
 πίσσα δ' ἔτρεμε πάντα κατὰ στίβον· αἱ δ' ὀλόλυξαν
 νύμφαι ἑλειονόμοι ποταμηίδες, αἱ περὶ κείνην
 Φάσιδος εἰαμένην Ἀμαραντίου εἰλίσσονται.
 Αἰσονίδην δ' ἦτοι μὲν ἔλεν δέας, ἀλλὰ μιν οὐδ' ὥς
 ἐντροπαλιζόμενον πόδες ἔκφερον, ὅφρ' ἐτάροισιν
 μίκτο κίων· ἦδη δὲ φύως νιφύεντος ὑπερθεν
 Καυκάσου ἡριγενῆς Ἰῶς βάλεν ἀντέλλουσα.

Καὶ τότε ἄρ' Αἰήτης περὶ μὲν στήθεσσιν ἔεστο
 θώρηκα στάδιον, τὸν οἱ πόρεν ἐξεναρίξας
 σφωιτέρας Φιλεγραῖον Ἀρης ὑπὸ χερσὶ Μίμαντα·
 χρυσεῖν δ' ἐπὶ κρατὶ κόρνιν θέτο τετραφάληρον,
 λαμπομένην οἷόν τε περίτροχον ἔπλετο φέγγος
 ἡελίου, ὅτε πρῶτον ἀνέρχεται Ὀικενοῖο.
 ἦν δὲ πολύρρινον νόμα σιάκος, ἦν δὲ καὶ ἐγγος
 δεινόν, ἀμαμύκετον· τὸ μὲν οὐδέ τις ἄλλος ὑπέστη
 ἀνδρῶν ἡρώων, ὅτε κάλλιπον Ἡρακλῆα
 τῆλε παρέξ, ὃ κεν οἶος ἐναντίβιον πολέμιζεν.
 τῷ δὲ καὶ ὠκυπόδων ἵππων εὐπηγέα δίφρον
 ἔσχε πέλας Φαείθων ἐπιβήμεναι· ἦν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς
 βῆσατο, ῥυτῆρας δὲ χεροῖν ἔχεν, ἐκ δὲ πόληος
 ἦλσεν εὐρείαν κατ' Ἀμαξυτόν, ὥς κεν ἀέθλοι

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

a loving embrace. Then he dug a pit in the ground of a cubit's depth and heaped up billets of wood, and over it he cut the throat of the sheep, and duly placed the carcass above; and he kindled the logs placing fire beneath, and poured over them mingled libations, calling on Hecate Brimo to aid him in the contests. And when he had called on her he drew back; and she heard him, the dread goddess, from the uttermost depths and came to the sacrifice of Aeson's son; and round her horrible serpents twined themselves among the oak boughs; and there was a gleam of countless torches; and sharply howled around her the hounds of hell. All the meadows trembled at her step; and the nymphs that haunt the marsh and the river shrieked, all who dance round that mead of Amaranthine Plaisis. And fear seized Aeson's son, but not even so did he turn round as his feet bore him forth, till he came back to his comrades; and now early dawn arose and shed her light above snowy Caucasus.

Then Aeetes arrayed his breast in the stiff corslet which Ares gave him when he had slain Phlegmean Minus with his own hands; and upon his head he placed a golden helmet with four plumes, gleaming like the sun's round light when he first rises from Ocean. And he wielded his shield of many hides, and his spear, terrible, resistless; none of the heroes could have withstood its shock now that they had left behind Hecates far away, who alone could have met it in battle. For the king his well-furnished chariot of swift steeds was held near at hand by Phaëthon, for him to mount; and he mounted, and held the reins in his hands. Then from the city he drove along the broad highway, that

μέλλων· ἰτάρ κληῖσιν ἐπισχερῶ ἰδρυθέντες
 ῥίμφα μάλ' ἐς πεδίον τὸ Ἀρήιον ἠπείγοντο.
 τῶσσον δὲ προτέρω πέλεν ἄσπεος ἀντιπέρηθεν,
 ὅσσον τ' ἐκ βαλβίδος ἐπήβολος ἄρματι νύσσα
 γίγνεται, ὅππότε ἄεθλα καταφθιμένοιο ἀνακτος
 κηδεμόνες πεζοῖσι καὶ ἵππῃεσσι τίθενται.
 τέτμον δ' Αἰήτην τε καὶ ἄλλων ἔθνεα Κόλχων,
 τοὺς μὲν Καυκασίοισιν ἐφισταύτας σκοπέλοισιν,
 τὸν δ' αὐτοῦ παρὰ χεῖλος ἐλίσσόμενον ποταμοῖο.

1270

Λισσιμίδης δ', ὅτε δὴ πρυμνήσια δῖσαν ἑταῖροι,
 δῆ ῥα τότε ξὺν δουρὶ καὶ ἄσπίδι βαῖν' ἐς ἄεθλον,
 νηὸς ἀποπροθορῶν ἄμυδις δ' ἔλε παμφανύωσαν
 χαλκείην πῆληκα θοῶν ἐμπλειον ὀδόντων
 καὶ ξίφος ἀμφ' ὤμοις, γυμνὸς δέμας, ἄλλα μὲν Ἄρει
 εἴκελος, ἄλλα δὲ πον χρυσαόρῳ Ἀπόλλωνι.
 παπτήνας δ' ἰνὰ νεῖδον ἴδε ζυγὰ χάλκεα ταύρων
 αὐτόγυνόν τ' ἐπὶ τοῖς στιβυροῦ ἀδύμαντος ἄροτρον.
 χρίμεψε δ' ἔπειτα κιών, παρὰ δ' ὄβριμον ἐγχεος ἐ-
 πηξεν

1280

ὀρθὸν ἐπ' αὐριάχῳ, κυνέην δ' ἀποκύνθεται ἐρείσας.
 βῆ δ' αὐτῇ προτέρωσε σὺν ἄσπίδι νήριτα ταύρων
 ἶχνα μαστεύων· οἱ δ' ἔκπαθεν ἀφρώστοιο
 κευθμόνος χθονίου, ἵνα τέ σφισιν ἔσκε βόαυλα
 καρτερὰ λογυνύοντι πέριξ εἰλυμένα καπνῷ,
 ἀμφὶ ὁμοῦ προγέμοντο πυρὸς σέλας ἀμπνείοντες.
 ἐδδειςαν δ' ἦραες, ὅπως ἴδον. αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῖσγε,
 εὖ διαβάς, ἐπιόντας, ἄτε σπιλάς εἰν ἀλὶ πέτρῃ
 μέμνει ἀπειρεσίῃσι δοκούμενα κύματ' ἀέλλαις.
 πρόσθε δὲ οἱ σάκος ἔσχεν ἐναντίον· οἱ δὲ μιν ἀμφὶ
 μυκηθμῷ κρατεροῖσιν ἐνέπληξαν κεράεσσιν·
 οὐδ' ἄρα μιν τυτθὸν περ ἰνώχλισαν ἀντιώκοντες.
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἐνὶ τρητοῖσιν εὐρρῖνοι χαίνοισιν

1290

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

their benches they sped swiftly on to the plain of Ares. And it lay in front of them on the opposite side of the city, as far off as is the turning-post that a chariot must reach from the starting-point, when the kinsmen of a dead king appoint funeral games for footmen and horsemen. And they found Acetes and the tribes of the Colchians; these were stationed on the Caucasian heights, but the king by the winding brink of the river.

Now Aeson's son, as soon as his comrades had made the hawsers fast, leapt from the ship, and with spear and shield came forth to the contest; and at the same time he took the gleaming helmet of bronze filled with sharp teeth, and his sword girt round his shoulders, his body stripped, in somewise resembling Ares and in somewise Apollo of the golden sword. And gazing over the field he saw the bulls' yoke of bronze and near it the plough, all of one piece, of stubborn adamant. Then he came near, and fixed his sturdy spear upright on its butt, and taking his helmet off leant it against the spear. And he went forward with shield alone to examine the countless tracks of the bulls, and they from some unseen lair beneath the earth, where was their strong standing, wrapt in murky smoke, both rushed out together, breathing forth flaming fire. And sore afraid were the heroes at the sight. But Jason, setting wide his feet, withstood their onset, as in the sea a rocky reef withstands the waves tossed by the countless blasts. Then in front of him he held his shield; and both the bulls with loud bellowing attacked him with their mighty horns; nor did they stir him a jot by their onset. And as when through the holes of the furnace the armourers' bellows anon

φῦσαι χαλκῆων ὅτε μὲν τ' ἀναμαρμαίρουντι,
 πῦρ ὀλοὸν πιμπρᾶσαι, ὅτ' αὖ λήγουσιν ἀντμῆς,
 δεινὸς δ' ἐξ αὐτοῦ πόλεται βρόμος, ὅππότε' αἶψα
 νειόθεν· ὥς ἄρα τῶγε θοὴν φλόγα φυσιόωστας
 ἐκ στομάτων ὀμίδευν, τὸν δ' ἄμφεπε δῆιον αἶθος
 βῆλλον ἄτε στεροπῇ· κούρης δέ ἐ φάρμακ' ἔρυντο.
 καί ῥ' ὅγε δεξιτεροῖο βροδὸς κέρασ' ἄκρον ἐρύσας
 εἶλκεν ἐπικρατέως παντὶ σθένα, ὅφρα πελάσσει
 ζεύγλη χαλκείῃ, τὸν δ' ἐν χθονὶ κάββαλεν ὀκλάξ,
 ῥίμφα ποδὶ κρούσας πόδα χάλκεον. ὥς δὲ καὶ
 ἄλλον

1200

σφῆλεν γυνῆς ἐπιόντα, μὴ βεβωλημένον ὄρμῃ.
 εὐρὺ δ' ἀποπροβαλὼν χαμάδις σάκος, ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα
 τῇ καὶ τῇ βεβῶως ἄμφω ἔχε πεπτηῶτας
 γούνασιν ἐν προτέροισι, διὰ φλογὸς εἶθαρ
 ἔλυσθείς.

1310

θαύμασε δ' Ἀλκίτης σθένης ἀνέρος. οἱ δ' ἄρα τείως
 Τυνδαρίδαι—δὴ γάρ σφι πάλαι προπεφραδμένον
 ἦεν—

ἰσχυρόν τε γυνὰ οἱ πεδόμεν δύσαν ἀμφιβαλέσθαι.
 αὐτὰρ ὁ εὖ ἐνέδησε λόφους· μεσσηγὺ δ' ἡείρας
 χάλκεον ἰστοβοῆα, θοῇ συνάρασσε κορῶν
 ζεύγληθεν. καὶ τοὶ μὲν ὑπὲρ πυρὸς ἄψ' ἐπὶ νῆα
 χαλίσσθην. ὁ δ' ἄρ' αὖτις ἔλων σάκος ἐνθετο νώτῃ
 ἐξόπιθεν, καὶ γέντο θοῶν ἔμπλειον ὀδόντων
 πῆληκα βριαρὴν δόρυ τ' ἄσχετον, ᾧ ῥ' ὑπὸ
 μέσσαις

1320

ἐργατίνης ὥς τις τε Πελασγίδι νόσσει ἰκαίνη
 οὐτάξων λαγόναι· μάλα δ' ἔμπεδον εὖ ἀραρυῖαν
 τυκτὴν ἐξ ἀδάμαντος ἐπιθύνεσκεν ἐχέτλην.

Οἱ δ' εἴως μὲν δὴ περιώσια θυμαίνεσκον,
 λάβρον ἐπιπνέοντε πυρὸς σέλας· ὥρτο δ' ἀντμῇ

APOLLONIUS RHODIUS

ἄρπην εὐκαμπῇ νεοθηγέα χερσὶ μεμαρπὸς
 ὤμον ἐπισπεύδων κείρει στάχυν, οὐδὲ βολῆσιν
 μέμνει ἐς ὥραίνην τερσήμεναι ἡελίοιο·
 ὥς τότε γηγερέων κείρε στάχυν, αἵματι δ' ὄλκοι
 ἤνυτε κρηναῖαι ἡμέραι πλήθοντο ῥαῖσιν.
 πίπτον δ', οἳ μὲν οὐδ' ἔτρηχότα βῶλον ἀρούρης¹
 λαζόμενοι πρηγεῖς, οἳ δ' ἐμπαλιν, οἳ δ' ἐπ' ἀγοστῷ
 καὶ πλευροῖς, κήτεσσι βομήν ἀτάλνυται ἰδέσθαι.
 πολλοὶ δ' οὐτάμενοι, πρὶν ὑπὸ χθονὸς ἔχνος αἰεῖραι,
 ὅσπον ἄνω προύτυψαν ἐς ἡέρα, τόσπον ἔραζε
 βριθόμενοι πλαδαροῖσι καρήασιν ἡρήρειντο.
 ἔρνεά παυ ταῖος, Διὸς ἄσπετον ὀμβρήσαντος,
 φυταλιῇ νεύθρεπτα κατημύνουσιν ἔραζε
 κλασθέντα ῥίξηθεν, ἀλωήων πόνος ἀνδρῶν·
 τὸν δὲ κατηφείη τε καὶ αὐλοῦν ἄλγος ἰκάνει
 κλήρου σημαντῆρα φυτοτρόφον· ὥς τότε ἄνακτος
 Διὸς βαρεῖται ὑπὸ φρένας ἦλθον ἀνταί.
 ἦγε δ' ἐς πτολίεθρον ὑπότηροπος ἄμμιγα Κόλχοις,
 πορφύρων, ἧ κέ σφι θοώτερον ἀντιώετο.
 ἦμαρ ἰδὺν, καὶ τῷ τετελεσμένος ἦεν αἶεθλος.

¹ ἀρούρης Ἡοπίαση; ἰδοῖεν MSS.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK III

fields, seizes in his hand a curved sickle, newly sharpened, and hastily cuts the unripe crop, and waits not for it to be parched in due season by the beams of the sun; so at that time did Jason cut down the crop of the Earthborn; and the furrows were filled with blood, as the channels of a spring with water. And they fell, some on their faces biting the rough clod of earth with their teeth, some on their backs, and others on their hands and sides, like to sea-monsters to behold. And many, smitten before rising their feet from the earth, bowed down as far to the ground as they had risen to the air, and rested there with the damp of death on their brows. Even so, I ween, when Zeus has sent a measureless rain, new planted orchard-shoots droop to the ground, cut off by the root—the toil of gardening men; but heaviness of heart and deadly anguish come to the owner of the farm, who planted them; so at that time did bitter grief come upon the heart of King Aetes. And he went back to the city among the Colchians, pondering how he might most quickly oppose the heroes. And the day died, and Jason's contest was ended.

SUMMARY OF BOOK IV

INVOCATION of the Muse (1-5).—Grief of Medea, who flies from the palace during the night and joins the Argonauts (6-91).—By the aid of Medea, Jason seizes and carries off the golden fleece, after which the Argonauts depart (92-211).—Pursued by the Colchians, they land in Paphlagonia, where Argus shows them the route to take (212-293).—The Argonauts sail up the Ister, by a branch of which they make their way into the Adriatic, where they find their progress barred by the Colchians, who had come by a shorter route (294-337).—Agreement between the Argonauts and the Colchians: Medea's reproaches to Jason (338-451).—Murder of Amyrtas by Jason: the Colchians give up the pursuit (452-551).—The Argonauts sail along the Eridanus into the Rhone, and reach the shade of Circe in Italy (552-684).—Jason and Medea are purified by Circe: the Argonauts pass the isle of the Sirens, Scylla, Charybdis, and the Phæacians (685-981).—Arrival among the Phæacians: here other Colchians reclaim Medea, and, to prevent

SUMMARY OF BOOK IV

her surrender, her marriage with Jason is celebrated (982-1169).—Departure of the Argonauts, who are driven by a storm on to the Syrtes : they carry Argo on their shoulders to the Tritonian lake (1170-1484).—Deaths of Canthus and Mopsus (1485-1536).—The god Triton conducts Argo from the lake into the sea (1537-1637).—Episode of the giant Talos in Crete (1638-1693).—Arrival at the isle Anaphe : the dream of Euphemus, which is interpreted by Jason : arrival at Argina and at Pagasæ, the end of the voyage (1694-1761).

Αὐτὴ νῦν κάματόν γε, θεά, καὶ δῆνεα κούρη
 Κολχίδος ἔννεπε, Μοῦσα, Διὸς τέκος. ἥ γὰρ ἔμοιγε
 ἀμφασίρ' ἴβος ἔνδον ἐλίσσεται ὀρμαίνοντι,
 ἥέ μιν ἄτης πῆμα δυσίμερον, ἥ τόγ' ἐπίσπῳ
 φύζαν ἀεκελίην, ἧ κάλλιπεν ἔθνεα Κόλχων.

Ἦτοι ὁ μὲν δῆμοιο μετ' ἀνδράσιν, ὅσσοι ἄριστοι,
 παυνύχιος δόλον αἰπὺν ἐπὶ σφίσι μητιάσκειν
 οἶσιν ἐνὶ μεγάροις, στυγερῶ ἐπὶ θυμὸν ἰέθλη
 ἀλήτης ἄμοτον κεχολωμένον· οὐδ' ὄγε πᾶπαν
 θυγατέρων τάδε νόσφιν ἔων τελέεσθαι ἐώλπει.

10

Τῇ δ' ἀλεγεινότατον κραδίη φόβον ἔμβαλεν Ἥρη·
 τρέσσειν δ', ἥντε τις κούφη κεμής, ἦντε βαθείης
 τάρφεσιν ἐν ξυλόχοιο κυνῶν ἐφόβησεν ὁμοκλή.
 αὐτίκα γὰρ νημερτές ὤλσσατο, μὴ μιν ἄρωγῇ
 ληθέμεν, αἶψα δὲ πᾶσαν ἀναπλήσειν κακότητα.
 τάρβει δ' ἀμφιπόλους ἐπίστορας· ἐν δὲ οἱ ὅσσε
 πλήτο πυρός, δεινὸν δὲ περιβρομέσκον ἱκοναί.
 πυκνὰ δὲ λαυκανίης ἐπεμίσσατο, πυκνὰ δὲ κουρίξ
 ἔλκομένη πλοκάμους γοερῇ βρονχίσατ' ἀνὴρ.
 καὶ νῦν κεν αὐτοῦ τῆμος ὑπὲρ μῶρον ὦλετο κούρη,
 φάρμακα πασσαμένη, Ἥρης δ' ἰλίωσε μενοιπνίς,
 εἰ μὴ μιν Φρίξοιο θεὰ σὺν πασι φέβεσθαι

20

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

fluttering soul within her was comforted ; and then she poured from her bosom all the drugs back again into the casket. Then she kissed her bed, and the folding-doors on both sides, and stroked the walls, and tearing away in her hands a long tress of hair, she left it in the chamber for her mother, a memorial of her maidenhood, and thus lamented with passionate voice :

"I go, leaving this long tress here in my stead, O mother mine ; take this farewell from me as I go far hence ; farewell Chalciope, and all my home. Would that the sea, stranger, had dashed thee to pieces, ere thou camest to the Colchian land !"

Thus she spake, and from her eyes shed copious tears. And as a bondmaid steals away from a wealthy house, whom fate has lately severed from her native land, nor yet has she made trial of grievous toil, but still unschooled to misery and shrinking in terror from slavish tasks, goes about beneath the cruel hands of a mistress ; even so the lovely maiden rushed forth from her home. But to her the bolts of the doors gave way self-moved, leaping backwards at the swift strains of her magic song. And with bare feet she sped along the narrow paths, with her left hand holding her robe over her brow to veil her face and fair cheeks, and with her right lifting up the hem of her tunic. Quickly along the dark track, outside the towers of the spacious city, did she come in fear ; nor did any of the wardens note her, but she sped on unseen by them. Thence she was minded to go to the temple ; for well she knew the way, having often aforetime wandered there in quest of corpses and

ἄμφι τε δυσπαλέας ῥίζας χθονός, οἷα γυναῖκες
 φαρμακίδες· τρομερῶ δ' ὑπὸ δαίματι πάλ्लετο θυμός.
 τὴν δὲ νέον Τιτηνὺς ἀνερχομένη περάττηθεν
 φοιταλέην ἐσιδούσα θεὰ ἐπεχέρατο Μῆνη
 ἀρπαλέως, καὶ τοῖα μετὰ φρεσὶν ᾗσιν εἶπεν·

‘Οὐκ ἄρ' ἐγὼ μούνη μετὰ Λάτμιον ἄντρον ἀλύσκω,
 οὐδ' οἷη καλῶ περιδαίομαι Ἐνδυμίωνι·
 ἢ θαμὰ δὴ καὶ σείο κίον δολέραισι ἀοιδαῖς,
 μνησαμένη φιλότῃτος, ἵνα σκοτίῃ ἐνὶ νυκτὶ
 φαρμάσσης εὐκῆλος, ἃ τοι φίλα ἔργα τέτυκται.
 νῦν δὲ καὶ αὐτὴ δῆθεν ὁμοίης ἔμμορες ἤτης·
 δῶκε δ' ἀνιηρόν τοι Ἰήσωνα πῆμα γενέσθαι
 δαίμων ἀλγυνόεις· ἀλλ' ἔρχεο, τέτλαθι δ' ἔμπης
 καὶ πινυτή περ ἐοῦσα, πολύστονον ἄλγος ἀείρειν.’

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· τὴν δ' αἰψα πόδες φέρου ἐγκονέου-
 σαν.

ἀσπασίως δ' ὄχθησιν ἐπηέρθη ποταμοῖο,
 ἀντεπέρην λεύσσουσα πυρὸς σέλας, ὃ ῥά τ' ἀέθλων
 παννύχιοι ἥρωες ἐυφροσύνησιν ἔδαιον.
 ὄξεϊρ δ' ἤπειτα διὰ κνέφας ὄρθια φωνῇ
 ὀπλότατον Φρίξοιο περαιόθεν ἤπνε παῖδων,
 Φρόντιν· ὃ δὲ ξὺν ἐοῖσι κασιγνήτοις ὅπα κούρης
 αὐτῷ τ' Ἀίσονίδῃ τεκμήρατο· σῖγα δ' ἐταῖροι
 θάμβεον, εὐτ' ἐνύσαν ὃ δὴ καὶ ἐτήτυμον ἦεν.
 τρεῖς μὲν ἀνήμυσεν, τρεῖς δ' ὀτρίνωντος ὁμίλου
 Φρόντις ἀμοιβήδην ἀντίαχεν· οἱ δ' ἄρα τείως
 ἥρωες μετὰ τήνγε θοοῖς ἐλάσκον ἐρετμοῖς.
 οὕτω πείσματα νηὸς ἐπ' ἠπαίροιο περαίης
 βιάλλον, ὃ δὲ κραιπνοὺς χέρσας πόδας ἤκεν Ἰήσων
 ὑψοῦ ἀπ' ἰκρίάφιν· μετὰ δὲ Φρόντις τε καὶ Ἄργος.

νίε δὴώ Φρίξου, χαμάδις θάρον· ἡ δ' ἄρα ταύσγε
γαύων ἀμφοτέρησι περισχομένη προσέειπεν·

“Ὑε με, φίλοι, ῥύσασθε δυσάμμορον, ὧς δὲ καὶ
αὐτοὺς

ὑμέας Αἰήταο, πρὸ γάρ τ' ἀναφανδὰ τέτυκται
πάντα μάλ', οὐδέ τι μῆχος ἰκάνεται. ἀλλ' ἐπὶ νηὶ
φεύγωμεν, πρὶν τόνδε θαῶν ἐπιβήμεναι ἵππων.
δώσω δὲ χρύσειον ἐγὼ ἄερος, εὐνήσασα
φρουρὸν ὄφιν· τίμη δὲ θεοὺς ἐνὶ σοῖσιν ἐταίροις,
ξεῖνε, τεῶν μύθων ἐπίστορας, οὓς μοι ὑπέστης,
ποιήσαι· μὴδ' ἐνθεν ἐκαστέρω ὀρμηθεῖσαν
χῆτεϊ κηδεμόνων ὀνοτὴν καὶ ἀεικέα θείης.”

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Ἴσκειν ἀκηχεμένη· μέγα δὲ φρένες Αἰσονίδαο
ῥήθεον· αἰψα δὲ μιν περὶ γούνασι πεπτηνῖαν
ἦκ' ἀναειρόμενος προσπτύξατο, θάρσυνέν τε·
“Δαιμονίη, Ζεὺς αὐτὸς Ὀλύμπιος ὄρκιος ἔστω,
Ἦρη τε Ζυγίη, Διὸς εὐνέτις, ἣ μὲν ἐμοῖσιν
κουριδίην σε δόμοισιν ἐνιστήσεσθαι ἄκοιτιν,
εὖτ' ἂν ἐς Ἑλλάδα γαίαν ἰκώμεθα νοστήσαντες.”

Ὡς ἤῴδα, καὶ χεῖρα παρασχεδὸν ἦραρε χειρὶ
δεξιτερῇν· ἡ δὲ σφιν ἐς ἱερὸν ἄλσος ἀνώγει
νῆα βοῆν ἐλάαν αὐτοσχεδόν, ὅφρ' ἔτι νύκτωρ
κῶας ἐλόντες ἄγοιντο παρὲκ νόον Αἰήταο.
ἐνθ' ἔπος ἠδὲ καὶ ἔργον ὁμοῦ πέλεν ἐσσυμένοισιν.
εἰς γάρ μιν βῆσαντες, ἀπὸ χθονὸς αὐτίκ' ἔωσαν
νῆα· πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ἐπείγομένων ἐλάττησιν
ἦεν ἀριστήων· ἡ δ' ἔμπαλιν αἰσσοῦσα
γαίῃ χεῖρας ἔτεινεν ἀμείχανος. αὐτὰρ Ἰήσων
θάρσυνέν τ' ἐπέεσσι, καὶ ἰσχανεν ἀσχαλώσαν.

100

Ἦμος δ' ἀνέρες ὑπνου ἅπ' ὀφθαλμῶν ἐβάλουντο
ἀγρόται, οἷτε κύεσσι πεποιθότες οὔποτε νύκτα

110

δοση δὲ μινὸς βοὸς ἦμιος ἢ ἐλάφοιο
 γίνεταί, ἦντ' ἰγρῶσται ἀχαιινὴν καλέουσιν,
 τίσσουν ἔην πάντῃ χρούσειν ἐφύπερθεν ἄωτον.
 βεβρίθει λήνεσσιν ἐπηρεφές· ἤλιθα δὲ χθῶν
 αἶν ὑποπρὸ ποδῶν ἀμαρύσσετο νισσομένοιο.
 ἦμε δ' ἄλλοτε μὲν λαιῷ ἐπιειμένος ὤμφ
 ἀνέχενος ἐξ ὑπάτοις ποδηνεκές, ἄλλοτε δ' αὖτε 180
 εἴλει ἀφασσύμενος· περὶ γὰρ δίεν, ὅφρα ἔ μή τις
 ἀνδρῶν ἢ θεῶν νοσφίσσεται ἀντιβολήσας.

Ἦὼς μὲν β' ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἐκίδνατο, τοὶ δ' ἐς ὄμιλον
 ἴξον. θάμβησαν δὲ νέοι μέγα κῶας ἰδόντες
 λαμπόμενον στεροπῇ ἱκελον Διός. ὦρτο δ' ἕκαστος
 ψαῦσαι ἐελδόμενος δέχθαι τ' ἐνὶ χερσὶν ἐῷσιν.
 Αἰσούδης δ' ἄλλους μὲν ἐρήτυε, τῷ δ' ἐπὶ φᾶρος
 κάββαλε νηγάτιον· πρύμνῃ δ' ἐνεείσατο κούρην
 ἀνθέμενος, καὶ τοῖον ἔπος μετὰ πᾶσιν ἔειπεν·

ἸΜΗΚΕΤΙ Νῦν χάζεσθε, φίλοι, πύτρηνδε νέεσθαι. 190
 ἦδη γὰρ χρειῶ, τῆς εἵνεκα τήνδ' ἀλεγεινὴν
 ναυτιλίην ἐτλημεν οἰζύνε μαχθίζοντες,
 εὐπαλῶς κούρης ὑπὸ δῆνεσι κεκράανται.
 τὴν μὲν ἐγὼν ἐθέλονσαν ἀνάξομαι οἴκαδ' ἄκοιτιν
 κουριδίην· ἀτὰρ ὑμεῖς Ἀχαιῖδος οἴᾳ τε πίσης
 αὐτῶν θ' ὑμείων ἐσθλὴν ἐπαρωγὸν ἰοῦσαν
 σώετε. δὴ γάρ που, μάλ' οἶομαι, εἰσιν ἐρύξων
 Αἰήτης ὁμάδῃ πόντονδ' ἱμεν ἐκ ποταμοῖο.
 ἀλλ' αἰ μὲν διὰ νηὸς, ἡμοιβαδὺς ἀνέρος ἀνὴρ
 ἐξόμενος, πηδοῖσιν ἐρέσσετε· τοὶ δὲ βοείας 200
 ἰσπίδας ἡμίσεις, δῶν θοὸν ἔχμα βολαίων,
 προσχόμενοι νύστῳ ἐπαμύνετε. νῦν δ' ἐνὶ χερσὶν
 παῖδας εἰς πύτρην τε φίλην, γεραροῦς τε τοκῆας

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

great as is the hide of a yearling ox or stag, which huntsmen call a brocket, so great in extent was the fleece all golden above. Heavy it was, thickly clustered with flocks; and as he moved along, even beneath his feet the sheen rose up from the earth. And he strode on now with the fleece covering his left shoulder from the height of his neck to his feet, and now again he gathered it up in his hands; for he feared exceedingly, lest some god or man should meet him and deprive him thereof.

Dawn was spreading over the earth when they reached the throng of heroes; and the youths marvelled to behold the mighty fleece, which gleamed like the lightning of Zeus. And each one started up eager to touch it and clasp it in his hands. But the son of Aeson restrained them all, and threw over it a mantle newly-woven; and he led the maiden to the stern and seated her there, and spake to them all as follows:

"No longer now, my friends, forbear to return to your fatherland. For now the task for which we dared this grievous voyage, toiling with bitter sorrow of heart, has been lightly fulfilled by the maiden's counsels. Her—for such is her will—I will bring home to be my wedded wife; do ye preserve her, the glorious saviour of all Achaen and of yourselves. For of a surety, I ween, will Aeetes come with his host to bar our passage from the river into the sea. But do some of you toil at the oars in turn, sitting man by man; and half of you raise your shields of oxhide, a ready defence against the darts of the enemy, and guard our return. And now in our hands we hold the fate of our children and dear country and of our aged parents; and on our venture

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

all Hellas depends, to reap either the shame of failure or great renown."

Thus he spoke, and donned his armour of war; and they cried aloud, wondrously eager. And he drew his sword from the sheath and cut the hawsers at the stern. And near the maiden he took his stand ready armed by the steersman Aeneas, and with their rowing the ship sped on as they strained desperately to drive her clear of the river.

By this time Medea's love and deeds had become known to haughty Aetes and to all the Colchians. And they thronged to the assembly in arms; and countless as the waves of the stormy sea when they rise crested by the wind, or as the leaves that fall to the ground from the wood with its myriad branches in the month when the leaves fall—who could reckon their tale?—so they in countless number poured along the banks of the river shouting in frenzy; and in his shapely chariot Aetes drove forth above all with his steeds, the gift of Helios, swift as the blasts of the wind. In his left hand he raised his curved shield, and in his right a huge pine-branch, and near him in front stood up his mighty spear. And Apsyrtus held in his hands the reins of the steeds. But already the ship was cleaving the sea before her, urged on by stalwart oarsmen, and the stream of the mighty river rushing down. But the king in grievous anguish lifted his hands and called on Helios and Zeus to bear witness to their evil deeds; and terrible threats he uttered against all his people, that unless they should with their own hands seize the maiden, either on the land or still finding the ship on the swell of

ἄξουσιν, καὶ θυμὸν ἐνιπλήσσει μενεαίνων
τίσασθαι τάδε πάντα, δαήσονται κεφαλῆσιν
πάντα χόλον καὶ πᾶσαν ἔην ὑποδέγμενοι ἄτην.

Ὡς ἔφατ' Αἰήτης· αὐτῷ δ' ἐνὶ ἡματι Κόλχοι
νῆϊς τ' εἰρύσσαντο, καὶ ἄρμενα νηυσὶ βάλοντο,
αὐτῷ δ' ἡματι πόοντον ἀνήϊον· οὐδέ κε φαίης
τόσσον νηήτην στόλον ἔμμεναι, ἀλλ' οἴωνόν
Ἰλαδὸν ἄσπετον ἔθνος ἐπιβρομέειν πελίνγεσσιν.

240

Οἱ δ' ἀνέμου λαεψηρὰ θεῶς βουλῆσιν ἀέντος
Ἥρης, ὅφρ' ὤκιστα κακὸν Πελῖας δόμοισιν
Λαίῃ Μήδεια Πελασγίδα γαῖαν ἴκηται,
ἧοι ἐνὶ τριτάτῃ πρυμνήσια νηὸς ἔδησαν
Παφλαγόνων ἀκτῆσι, πύροιθ' Ἄλως ποταμοῖο.
ἢ γάρ σφ' ἐξαπαβιάνας ἀρέσσασθαι θυέεσσιν
ἠνώγει Ἐκάτην. καὶ δὴ τὰ μὲν, ὅσσα θυηλὴν
κούρη πορσαίνουσα τιτύσκετο, μήτε τις ἴστωρ
εἴη, μήτ' ἐμὲ θυμὸς ἐπατρύνειεν αἰεῖδεν.

ἄξιμαυ ἀυδῆσαι· τό γε μὴν ἔδος ἐξέτι κείνου,
ὃ ῥα θεῶ ἥρωες ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖσιν ἔδειμαν,
ἀνδράσιιν ὀφυγόνουσι μένει καὶ τῆμος ἰδέσθαι.

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Αὐτίκα δ' Αἰσωνίδης ἐμνήσατο, σὺν δὲ καὶ ὦλλοι
ἥρωες, Φινῆος, ὃ δὴ πλόον ἄλλον εἶπεν
ἐξ Αἴης ἔσσεσθαι· ἀνώιστος δ' ἐτέτυκτο
πᾶσιν ὁμός. Ἄργας δὲ λιαιομένους ἀγόμευσεν·

Ἵνισσόμεθ' Ὀρχομενὸν τὴν ἔχραεν ὕμμι περιῆσαι
ιημερτῆς ὁδε μίντις, ὅτῳ ξυνέβητε πάροιθεν.
ἔστιν γὰρ πλόος ἄλλος, ὃς ἀθανάτων ἱερῆς
πέφραδον, οἱ Θηῆβης Ἰριτωμίδος ἐκγεγάασιν.
αὐπὼ τεῖρεα πάντα, τί τ' οὐρανῷ εἰλίσσονται,
οὐδέ τί πω Δαναῶν ἱερὸν γένος ἦεν ἀκοῦσαι

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the open sea, and bring her back, that so he might satisfy his eager soul with vengeance for all those deeds, at the cost of their own lives they should learn and abide all his rage and revenge.

Thus spake Aetes; and on that same day the Colchians launched their ships and cast the tackle on board, and on that same day sailed forth on the sea; thou wouldst not say so mighty a host was a fleet of ships, but that a countless flight of birds, swarn on swarn, was clamouring over the sea.

Swiftly the wind blew, as the goddess Hera planned, so that most quickly Aegean Medea might reach the Pelagian land, a bane to the house of Pelias, and on the third morn they bound the ship's stern cables to the shores of the Paphlagonians, at the mouth of the river Halys. For Medea bade them land and propitiate Hecate with sacrifice. Now all that the maiden prepared for offering the sacrifice may no man know, and may my soul not urge me to sing thereof. Awe restrains my lips, yet from that time the altar which the heroes raised on the beach to the goddess remains till now, a sight to men of a later day.

And straightway Aeson's son and the rest of the heroes bethought them of Phineus, how that he had said that their course from Aea should be different, but to all alike his meaning was dim. Then Argus spake, and they eagerly hearkened:

"We go to Orchomenus, whither that musing seer, whom ye met aforetime, foretold your voyage. For there is another course, signified by those priests of the immortal gods, who have sprung from Tritonian Thebes. As yet all the stars that wheel in the heaven were not, nor yet, though one should inquire, could aught be heard of the sacred

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south into a deep gulf that bends upwards from the Trimerium sea, that sea which lies along your land, if indeed Achelous flows forth from your land."

Thus he spake, and to them the goddess granted a happy portent, and all at the sight shouted approval, that this was their appointed path. For before them appeared a trail of heavenly light, a sign where they might pass. And gladly they left behind there the son of Lycaus and with canvas outspread sailed over the sea, with their eyes on the Papilagonian mountains. But they did not mind Carambis, for the winds and the gleam of the heavenly fire stayed with them till they reached Ister's mighty stream.

Now some of the Colchians, in a vain search, passed out from Pontus through the Cynnean rocks; but the rest went to the river, and then Apsyrtus led, and, turning aside, he entered the mouth called Fair. Wherefore he outstripped the heroes by crossing a neck of land into the furthest gulf of the Ionian sea. For a certain island is enclosed by Ister, by name Pence, three-cornered, its base stretching along the coast, and with a sharp angle towards the river; and round it the outfall is cleft in two. One mouth they call the mouth of Narx, and the other, at the lower end, the Fairmouth. And through this Apsyrtus and his Colchians rushed with all speed; but the heroes went upwards far away towards the highest part of the island. And in the meadows the country shepherds left their countless flocks for dread of the ships, for they deemed that they were beasts coming forth from the monster-teeming sea. For never yet before had they seen seafaring ships, neither the Scythians mingled with the Thracians, nor the

οὐτ' οὖν Γραυκένοιοι, οἷθ' οἱ περὶ Λαύριον ἦδη
 Σινδοὶ ἐρημαῖον πεδίον μέγα ναιετάοντες.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τ' Ἀγγοῦρον ὄρος, καὶ ἄπωθεν ἐόντα
 Ἀγγοῦρον ὄρεος σκόπελον πάρος Κανλιακοῖο,¹
 ὧ περὶ δὴ σχίζων Ἴστρος ῥέον ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα
 βάλλει ἄλλος, πεδίον τε τὸ Λαύριον ἠμείψαντο,
 εἴη ῥα τότε Κροῦνῃν Κόλχοι ἄλαδ' ἐκπρομολόντες
 πῖντρο, μὴ σφε λίσθουσιν, ὑπερμήξαντο κελεύθους.
 οἱ δ' ὀπίθεν ποταμοῖο κατήλυθον, ἐκ δ' ἐπέρησαν
 δοιὰς Ἀρτέμιδος Βρυγηίδας ἀγχόθι νήσους.
 τῶν δ' ἦτοι ἐτέρη μὲν ἐν ἱερὸν ἔσκεν ἔδεθλον
 ἐν δ' ἐτέρῃ, πληθύν πεφυλαγμένοι Ἀψύρτοιο,
 βαῖνον· ἐπεὶ κείνας πολέων λίπον ἐνδοθὶ νήσους
 αὐτῶς, ἀζόμενοι κούρην Διὸς· αἱ δὲ δὴ ἄλλαι
 στενωόμεναι Κόλχοισι πόρους εἵρυντο θαλίῃσιν.
 ὧς δὲ καὶ εἰς ἄλλας² πληθύν λίπον ἀγχόθι νήσους
 μέσφα Σαλαγγῶνος ποταμοῦ καὶ Νέστιδος αἰῆς.
 Ἔνθα κε ληνγαλὲρ Μινύαι τότε δημοσὶν
 παυρότεροι πλεόνεσσιν ὑπέκασθον· ἀλλὰ παροίβην
 συνθεσίην, μέγα κῆκος ἀλευάμενοι, ἐτάμοντο·
 κῶας μὲν χρύσειον, ἐπεὶ σφισιν αὐτὸς ὑπέστη
 Αἰήτης, οἱ κείνοι ἀναπλήσειαν ἀέθλους,
 ἔμπειδον εὐδικίῃ σφέας ἐξέμεν, εἴτε δόλοισιν,
 εἴτε καὶ ἀμφαδίην αὐτῶς ἀέκοντος ἀπηύριον·
 αὐτὰρ Μῆδεϊάν γε—τὸ γὰρ πέλεν ἀμφήριστον—
 παρθέσθαι κυρῇ Λητωίδι νόσφιν ὀμίλου,
 εἰσάκε τις δικύσῃσι θεμυστοῦχων βασιλῆων,
 εἴτε μιν εἰς πατρός χρεῖο δόμον αὐτὶς ἰκάνειν,
 εἴτε μεθ' Ἑλλάδα γαίαν ἀριστήεσσιν ἔπεισθαι.

330

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¹ Κανλιακοῖο L by correction, and a variation in scholia; see also Strabo. Byz. under Κανλική; Καννασιῶο L3.

² ἐπὶ τὰς δύο inferior MSS.

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prince is no longer with them, who is thy champion and thy brother; nor will I shrink from matching myself in fight with the Colchians, if they bar my way homeward."

Thus he spake soothing her; and she uttered a deadly speech: "Take heed now. - For when sorry deeds are done we must needs devise sorry counsel, since at first I was distraught by my error, and by heaven's will it was I wrought the accomplishment of evil desires. Do thou in the turmoil shield me from the Colchians' spears; and I will beguile Apsyrtus to come into thy hands—do thou greet him with splendid gifts—if only I could persuade the heralds on their departure to bring him alone to hearken to my words. Thereupon if this deed pleases thee, slay him and raise a conflict with the Colchians, I care not."

So they two agreed and prepared a great web of guile for Apsyrtus, and provided many gifts such as are due to guests, and among them gave a sacred robe of Hypsipyle, of crimson hue. The Graces with their own hands had wrought it for Dionysus in sea-girt Dia, and he gave it to his son Thoas thereafter, and Thoas left it to Hypsipyle, and she gave that fair-wrought guest-gift with many another marvel to Aeson's son to wear. Never couldst thou satisfy thy sweet desire by touching it or gazing on it. And from it a divine fragrance breathed from the time when the king of Nysa himself lay to rest thereon, flushed with wine and nectar, as he clasped the beauteous breast of the maiden-daughter of Minos, whom once Theseus forsook in the island of Dia, when she had followed him from Knossus. And when she had worked upon the

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heralds to induce her brother to come, as soon as she reached the temple of the goddess, according to the agreement, and the darkness of night surrounded them, that so she might devise with him a cunning plan for her to take the mighty fleece of gold and return to the home of Aetes, for, she said, the sons of Phrixus had given her by force to the strangers to carry off; with such beguiling words she scattered to the air and the breezes her witching charms, which even from afar would have drawn down the savage beast from the steep mountain-height.

Ruthless Love, great bane, great curse to mankind, from thee come deadly strifes and lamentations and groans, and countless pains as well have their stormy birth from thee. Arise, thou god, and arm thyself against the sons of our foes in such guise as when thou didst fill Medea's heart with accursed madness. How then by evil doom did she slay Apsyrtus when he came to meet her? For that must our song tell next.

When the heroes had left the maiden on the island of Artemis, according to the covenant, both sides ran their ships to land separately. And Jason went to the ambush to lie in wait for Apsyrtus and then for his comrades. But he, beguiled by these dire promises, crossed the swell of the sea in his ship, and in the darkness of night set foot on the sacred island; and faring all alone to meet her he made trial in speech of his sister, as a tender child tries a wintry torrent which not even strong men can pass through, to see if she would devise some guile against the strangers. And so they two agreed together on everything; and straightway Aeson's

γυμνὸν ἀνασχόμενος παλὶμῆ ξίφος· αἶψα δὲ κούρη
 ἔμπαλιν ὄμματ' ἐνεῖκε, καλυψαμένη ὀβούρησιν,
 μὴ φόνον ἀθρήσειε κασιγνήτοισι τυπέντος.
 τὸν δ' ὄγε, βουτύπος ὥστε μέγαν κεραλκέα ταῦρον,
 πλῆξεν ὀπιπεύσας νηοῦ σχεδόν, ὃν ποτ' ἔδειμαν
 Ἀρτέμιδι Βρυγοὶ περὶ ναίεται ἀντιπέρηθεν. 470
 τοῦ δ' ὄγ' ἐνὶ προδόμῳ γυνὴ ἤριπε· λαισθία δ' ἦρως
 θυμὸν ἀναπνεῖων χερσὶ μέλαν ἀμφοτέρησιν
 αἶμα κατ' ὠτειλὴν ὑποσχετο· τῆς δὲ καλύπτρην
 ἀργυφένην καὶ πέπλον ἡλενομένης ἐρύθηνεν.
 ὅξ' ὃ δὲ πανδαμάτωρ λοξῷ ἴδεν οἶον ἔρεξαν
 ὄμματι νηλεῆς ὀλοφύειον ἔργον Ἰρινοῦς.
 ἦρως δ' Αἰσονίδης ἐξήργματα τάμνε θανόντος,
 τρὶς δ' ἀπέλειξε φόνον, τρὶς δ' ἐξ ἄγος ἔπτυσ'
 ὀδόντων.

ἢ θέμις αὐθέντησι δολακτασίας ἰλίεσθαι.

ἰγρὸν δ' ἐν γαίῃ κρύψεν νέκυν, ἐνθ' ἔτι νῦν περ 480
 κείται ὅστέα κείνα μετ' ἀνδρείσιν Ἀψυρτεῦσιν.

Οἱ δ' ἄμυνδες πυρσοῖο σέλας προπύροιθεν ἰδόντες,
 τό σφιν παρθενικὴ τέκμαρ μετιοῦσιν ἄειρεν,
 Κολχίδος ἀγχόθι νηὸς ἔην παρὰ νῆα βύλοντο
 ἦρως· Κόλχον δ' ὄλεον στόλον, ἥντε κίρκοι
 φύλα πελειάων, ἢ μέγα πῶν λέοντες
 ἰγρότεροι κλονέουσιν ἐνὶ σταθμοῖσι θορόντες.
 οὐδ' ἄρα τις κείνων θάνατον φύγε, πάντα δ' ὄμιλον
 πῦρ ἅτε δηιόωντες ἐπέδραμον· ὁψέ δ' Ἰήσων
 ἦντησεν, μεμαῶς ἐπαμυνόμεν οὐ μάλ' ἠρωγῆς 490
 δευομένοις· ἦδη δὲ καὶ ἀμφ' αὐτοῖο μέλαινα.
 ἐνθα δὲ ναυτιλίας πυκινὴν περὶ μητιίασκον

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to the land of the Hylleans. For the islands lay thick in the river and made the path dangerous for those who sailed thereby. Nor, as aforesaid, did the Hylleans derive their hurt, but of their own accord furthered their passage, winning as guerdon a mighty tripod of Apollo. For tripods twain had Phoebus given to Aeson's son to carry afar in the voyage he had to make, at the time when he went to sacred Pytho to enquire about this very voyage; and it was ordained by fate that in whatever land they should be placed, that land should never be ravaged by the attacks of foemen. Therefore even now this tripod is hidden in that land near the pleasant city of Hyllus, far beneath the earth, that it may ever be unseen by mortals. Yet they found not King Hyllus still alive in the land, whom fair Melite bore to Hercules in the land of the Phlacians. For he came to the abode of Nausithous and to Maëris, the nurse of Dionysus, to cleanse himself from the deadly murder of his children; here he loved and overcame the water nymph Melite, the daughter of the river Aegæus, and she bore mighty Hyllus. But when he had grown up he desired not to dwell in that island under the rule of Nausithous the king; but he collected a host of native Phlacians and came to the Cronian sea; for the hero King Nausithous aided his journey, and there he settled, and the Mentores slew him as he was fighting for the oxen of his field.

Now, goddesses, say how it is that beyond this sea, near the land of Ausonia and the Ligystian isles, which are called Stoechades, the mighty tracks of the ship Argo are clearly sung of? What great

νημερτὲς πέφαται· τίς ἀπόπρωθε τόσσον ἀνίγκη
καὶ χρειώ σφ' ἐκόμισσε; τίνας σφέας ἤγαγον αὔραι;

Αὐτόν που μεγαλωστὶ δεδουπότος Ἀψύρταιο
Ζῆνα, θεῶν βασιλῆα, χόλος λάβεν, οἶον ἔρεξαν.
Αἰαίης δ' ὁλοὸν τεκμήρατα δῆνεσι Κίρκης
αἰμ' ἀπονιφάμενους, πρό τε μυρία κημανθέντας, 559
νοστήσειν. τὸ μὲν οὔτις ἀριστήων ἐνόησεν

ἄλλ' ἔθεον γαίης Ἑλληίδος ἐξανιόντες
τηλόθι· τὰς δ' ἀπέλειπον, ὅσαι Κόλχοισι πύραιθεν
ἐξείης πλήθοντο Λιβυρινίδες εἰν ἄλλ' νῆσοι,

Ἴσσα τε Δυσκέλαδός τε καὶ ἡμερτὴ Πιτυΐα.
αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ τῇσι παραὶ Κέρκυραν ἴκοντο,
εἴθα Ποσειδάων Ἀσωπίδα νάσσατο κόρην,
ἠύκομον Κέρκυραν, ἑκάς Φλιουντίδος αἴης,
ἄρπάζας ὑπ' ἔρωτι μελαινομένην δέ μιν ἥνδρες
ναυτίλοι ἐκ πάντοιο κελαινῇ πάντοθεν ὤλη
δερκόμενοι Κέρκυραν ἐπικλείουσι Μέλαιναν. 570

τῇ δ' ἐπὶ καὶ Μελίτην, λιαρῷ περιγηθέες οὖρῳ,
αἰπεινὴν τε Κεραισσόν, ὕπερθε δὲ πολλὸν ἐοῦσαν
Νυμφαίην παράμειβον, ἵνα κρείουσα Καλυψὼ
Ἀτλαντὶς ναίεσκε· τὰ δ' ἡεροειδέα λύσσειν
οὔρεα δοιύζοντο Κεραύνια. καὶ τότε βουλὰς
ἀμφ' αὐτοῖς Ζηνὴς τε μέγαν χόλον ἐφράσαθ' Ἥρη.
μηδόμενῃ δ' ἄνυσιν τοῖο πλοῦ, ὥρσειν ἀέλλας
ἀντικρύ, ταῖς αἰτίαις ἰναρπάγδην φορέοντο
νῆσου ἐπὶ κραναῆς Ἥλεκτρίδος. αὐτίκα δ' ἄφνω 581
ἴαχεν ἀνδρομέη ἑναπὶ μεσσηγὺ θεόντων
αὐδῆεν γλαφυρῆς νηὸς ἔδρυ, τό β' ἀνὰ μέσσην
στεῖραν Ἀθηναίῃ Διὶδωμίδος ἤρμοσε φηγεῖν.
ταύς δ' ὁλοὸν μεσσηγὺ δέος λάβεν εἰσαίοντας
φθογγὴν τε Ζηνὸς τε βαρὺν χόλον. οὐ γὰρ ἀλύξειν

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constraint and need brought the heroes so far? What breezes wafted them?

When Apsyrtus had fallen in mighty overthrow Zeus himself, king of gods, was seized with wrath at what they had done. And he ordained that by the counsels of Aeneas (Gree they should cleanse themselves from the terrible stain of blood and suffer countless woes before their return. Yet none of the chieftains knew this; but far onward they sped starting from the Hyllean land, and they left behind all the islands that were beforetime thronged by the Colchians—the Liburnian isles, isle after isle, Issa, Dysechulus, and lovely Pityeia. Next after them they came to Coreya, where Poseidon settled the daughter of Asopus, fair-haired Coreya, far from the land of Phlius, whence he had carried her off through love; and sailors beholding it from the sea, all black with its sombre woods, call it Coreya the Black. And next they passed Melite, rejoicing in the soft-blowing breeze, and steep Cerossus, and Nymphæa at a distance, where lady Calypso, daughter of Atlas, dwelt; and they deemed they saw the misty mountains of Thunder. And then Hera bethought her of the counsels and wrath of Zeus concerning them. And she devised an ending of their voyage and stirred up storm-winds before them, by which they were caught and borne back to the rocky isle of Electra. And straightway on a sudden there called to them in the midst of their course, speaking with a human voice, the beam of the hollow ship, which Athena had set in the centre of the stem, made of Dodonian oak. And deadly fear seized them as they heard the voice that told of the grievous wrath of Zeus. For it

ἔνιπεν αὐτε πόρου δαλιχῆς ἁλός, οὔτε θυέλλας
ἀργαλέας, ὅτε μὴ Κίρκη φόνον Ἀψύρτοιο
νηλέα νύφειεν· Πολυδεύκεα δ' εὐχετάασθαι
Κίστορα τ' ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖς ἦνωγε κελείθους
Λύσαντες ἔμπροσθε πορεῖν ἁλός, ἥ ἔνι Κίρκην
δύουσι, Πέρσης τε καὶ Ἑλίοιο θύγατρα.

5111

Ὡς Ἀργῶ ἰάχῃσεν ὑπὸ κνέφας· οἱ δ' ἀνόρουσαν
Τυνδαρίδαι, καὶ χεῖρας ἀνέσχεθον ἀθανάτοισιν
εὐχόμενοι τὰ ἕκαστα· κατηφείη δ' ἔχεν ἄλλους
ἦρωας Μινύας· ἡ δ' ἔσσυτο πολλὸν ἐπιπρὸ
λαΐφεισιν, ἐς δ' ἔβαλον μύχατον ῥόον Ἑριδανοῖο·
ἐνθα πυτ' αἰθαλδεντι τυπεῖς πρὸς στέρνα κεραυνῷ
ἡμιδαῆς Φαίδων πέσεν ἄρματος Ἑλίοιο
λίμνης ἐς προχοάς πολυβενθέας· ἡ δ' ὅτι νῦν περ
τραύματος αἰθομένοιο βαρὺν ἀνακηκίει ἄτμον.
οὐδέ τις ὕδωρ κεῖνο διὰ πτερὰ κούφα ταυύσσαι
οἰώσθ' δύναται βαλλεῖν ὑπερ· ἀλλὰ μεσηγὺς
φλογμῷ ἐπιθρόσκει πεποτημένος· ἄμφι δὲ κοῦραι
Ἥλιάδες ταυαῆσιν ἐελμέναι αἰγείροισιν,
μύρονται κινυρὸν μέλας γόον· ἐκ δὲ φαιινὰς
ἡλέκτρον λιβάδας βλεφάρων προχέουσιν ἔραζε,
αἱ μὲν τ' ἥελίω ψαμάθοις ἐπιτερσαίνονται·
εὖτ' ἂν δὲ κλύῃσι κελαυνῆς ὕδατα λίμνης
ἡέονας πνοῇ πολυηχέας ἐξ ἀνέμοιο,
δῆ τότ' ἐν Ἑριδανὸν προκυλίνδεται ἄθροα πάντα
κυμαίνοντι ῥόω· Κελτοὶ δ' ἐπὶ βάξιν ἔθεντο,
ὡς ἔρ' Ἀπόλλωνος τάδε δάκρυα Λητοῖδαι
συμφέρεται δίναις, ἃ τε μυρία χεῖρε πάροιθεν,
ἦμος Ὑπερβορέων ἱερὸν γένος εἰσαφίκανεν,
οὐρανὸν αἰγλήεντα λιπῶν ἐκ πατρὸς ἐπιπῆς,
χωόμενος περὶ παιδί, τὸν ἐν λιπαρῇ Λακερείῃ
διὰ Κορωνίς ἔτικτεν ἐπὶ προχοῇς Ἀμύροιο.

500

5112

καὶ τὰ μὲν ὡς κείνουσι μετ' ἀνδράσι κεκλήμινται·
τοὺς δ' οὔτε βρώμης ἔρει πύθος, οὔδ' ποτοῖο,
οἷτ' ἐπὶ γηθοσύνας τράπετο νόος. ἀλλ' ἄρα τοίγ γε θα
ῖματα μὲν στρεΐγοντο περιβληχρὸν βαρύνθοντες
ὀδμῇ λευγαλέῃ, τὴν ῥ' ἄσχατον ἐξανίσκον
τυφομένον Φαέθοντος ἐπιρροαὶ Ἡριδανοῖο·
νυκτὸς δ' αὖ γόος ὀξὺν ὀδυρομένων ἐσάκουον
Ἡλιάδων λιγέως· τὰ δὲ δάκρυα μυρομένησιν
οἶον ελαιηραὶ στάγες ὕδασιν ἐμφορέοντο.

Ἐκ δὲ τόθεν Ῥοδανοῖο βαθὺν ῥόον εἰσαπέβησαν,
ὅστ' εἰς Ἡριδανὸν μετατίσσεται· ἄμμιγα δ' ὕδωρ
ἐν ξυνοχῇ βέβρυχε κυκώμενον. αὐτὰρ ὁ γαίης
ἐκ μυχάτης, ἵνα τ' εἰσὶ πύλαι καὶ ἐδέθλια Νυκτός, 630
ἔγθεν ἀπορνούμενος τῇ μὲν τ' ἐπερεύγεται ἄκτας
Ἦκεανοῦ, τῇ δ' αἶτε μετ' Ἰονίην ἅλα βάλλει,
τῇ δ' ἐπὶ Σαρδύμῳν πέλαγος καὶ ἀπείρονα κόλπον
ἐπτά διὰ στομάτων ἴει ῥόον. ἐκ δ' ἄρα τοῖο
λίμνης εἰσέλασαν δυσχεΐμονας, αἷτ' ἀνὰ Κελτῶν
ἤπειρον πέπτανται ἀθέσφατον· ἐνθα κεν οἷγε
ἄτρη ἀεικελὴν πέλασαν· φέρε γάρ τις ἀπορρώξ
κόλπον ἐς Ἦκεανοῖο, τὸν οὐ προδαέντες ἐμέλλον
εἰσβάλλειν, τόθεν οὐ κεν ὑπότροποι ἐξεσώσθην.
ἀλλ' Ἡρῆ σκοπέλοιο καθ' Ἐρκυνίου ἰάχησεν 640
οὐρανόθεν προθοροῦσα· φόβῳ δ' ἐτίναχθεν αὐτῆς
πάντες ὁμῶς· δεινὸν γάρ ἐπὶ μέγας ἐβραχεν αἰθήρ.
ἂψ δὲ παλιτροπῶντο θεᾶς ὕπο, καὶ ῥ' ἐνόησαν
τὴν οἶμον, τῇ πέρ τε καὶ ἔπλετο νόστος ἰοῦσιν.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

of Amyrus. And such is the story told among these men. But no desire for food or drink seized the heroes nor were their thoughts turned to joy. But they were sorely afflicted all day, heavy and faint at heart, with the noisome stench, hard to endure, which the streams of Eridanus sent forth from Phæthton still burning; and at night they heard the piercing lament of the daughters of Helios, wailing with shrill voice; and, as they lamented, their tears were borne on the water like drops of oil.

Thence they entered the deep stream of Rhodanus which flows into Eridanus; and where they meet there is a race of mingling waters. Now that river, rising from the ends of the earth, where are the portals and mansions of Night, on one side bursts forth upon the beach of Ocean, at another pours into the Ionian sea, and on the third through seven mouths sends its stream to the Sardinian sea and its limitless bay.¹ And from Rhodanus they entered stormy lakes, which spread throughout the Celtic mainland of wondrous size; and there they would have met with an inglorious calamity; for a certain branch of the river was bearing them towards a gulf of Ocean which in ignorance they were about to enter, and never would they have returned from there in safety. But Hera leaping forth from heaven pealed her cry from the Hercynian rock; and all together were shaken with fear of her cry; for terribly crushed the mighty firmament. And backward they turned by reason of the goddess, and noted the path by which their return was ordained.

¹ Apollonius seems to have thought that the Po, the Rhone, and the Rhine are all connected together.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

And after a long while they came to the beach of the surging sea by the devising of Hera, passing unharmed through countless tribes of the Celts and Ligyans. For round them the goddess poured a dread mist day by day as they fared on. And so, sailing through the midmost mouth, they reached the Stoeclades islands in safety by the aid of the sons of Zeus; wherefore altars and sacred rites are established in their honour for ever; and not that sea-faring alone did they attend to succour; but Zeus granted to them the ships of future sailors too. Then leaving the Stoeclades they passed on to the island Aetolia, where after their toil they wiped away with pebbles sweat in abundance; and pebbles like skin in colour are strewn on the beach¹; and there are their quaits and their wondrous armour; and there is the Argonaut harbour called after them.

And quickly from there they passed through the sea, beholding the Tyrrhenian shores of Ausonia; and they came to the famous harbour of Aenea, and from the ship they cast hawkers to the shore near at hand. And here they found Circe bathing her head in the salt sea-spray, for sorely had she been seared by visions of the night. With blood her chambers and all the walls of her palace seemed to be running, and flame was devouring all the magic herbs with which she used to bewitch strangers whoever came; and she herself with murderous blood quenched the glowing flame, drawing it up in her hands; and she ceased from deadly fear. Wherefore when morning came she rose, and with sea-spray was bathing her hair and her garments. And beasts, not resembling

¹ i.e. like the scrapings from skin, ἀποσκαργισματα; see Strabo p. 224 for this adventure.

οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδ' ἀνδρεσσιν ὁμὸν δέμας, ἄλλο δ' ὑπ'
ἑλλων

συμμιγέες μελέων, κίον ἄθροοι, ἤνυτέ μῆλα
ἐκ σταθμῶν ἄλεις εἰσιν ὑπηδεύοντα νομῇ.
τοίους καὶ προτέρης ἐξ ἰλῦος ἐβλίσσῃσθε
χθῶν αὐτῇ μικτοῖσιν ἀρηρεμένους μελέεσσιν,
οὕτω διψαλέω μάλ' ὑπ' ἡέρι πιληθεῖσα,
οὐδέ πω ἄξαλέοιο βολαῖς τόσον ἡελίοιο
ικμάδας αἰνυμένη· τὰ δ' ἐπὶ στίχας ἤγαγεν αἰῶν
συγκρίνας· τῶς οἷγε φυὴν αἰδῆλοι ἔποντο.
ἥρωας δ' ἔλε θάμβος ἀπερίετον· αἵψα δ' ἕκαστος
Κίρκης εἰς τε φυὴν, εἰς τ' ὕμματα παπταίνοντες
ρεῖα κασιγνήτην φύσαν ἔμμεναι Λιήταο.

Ἡ δ' ὅτε δὴ νυχλίων ἀπὸ δαίματα πέμψεν ὀνείρων,
αὐτίκ' ἔπειτ' ἄψορρον ἀπέστιχε· τοὺς δ' ἄμ' ἔπεσθαι,
χειρὶ καταρρέξασα, δολοφροσύνησιν ἄνωγεν.
ἐνθ' ἵτοι πληθὺς μὲν ἐφ' ὅσμαις Λίσσιόιδας
μῖμνεν ἀπηλεγέως· ὁ δ' ἐρύσσατο Καλχίδα κούρηι.
ἀμφω δ' ἐσπέσθην αὐτὴν ὁδόν, ἔστ' ἀφίκοντο
Κίρκης ἐς μέγαρον· τοὺς δ' ἐν λιπαροῖσι κέλευεν
ἤγε θρόνοις ἔξεσθαι, ἀμηχανέουσα κιόντων.
τῷ δ' ἄνεψ καὶ ἀναυδοὶ ἐφ' ἐστίῃ αἰξάντε
ἔξανον, ἥτε δίκη λυγροῖς ἰκέτῃσι τέτυκται,
ἥ μὲν ἐπ' ἀμφοτέραις θεμένη χεῖρεσσι μέτωπα,
αὐτὰρ ὁ κοπήεν μέγα φύσγαυρον ἐν χθονὶ πῆξας,
ὡπέρ τ' Λιήταο πᾶν κτάνεν· οὐδὲ ποτ' ὄσσε
ἰθὺς ἐνὶ βλεφάροισιν ἀνέσχεθον. αὐτίκα δ' ἔγνω
Κίρκη φύξιον οἶτον ἀλτροσύνας τε φόνους.
τῷ καὶ ὀπιζομένη Ζητὸς θέμιν Ἰκεσίοιο,
ὃς μέγα μὲν κοτέει, μέγα δ' ἀνδροφόνουσιν ἀρίγγει,
ρέξει θυηπολίην, οἷη τ' ἀπολυμνίνονται

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

cleansed from guilt when they approach the altar. First, to atone for the murder still unexplained, she held above their heads the young of a sow whose dugs yet swelled from the fruit of the womb, and, severing its neck, sprinkled their hands with the blood; and again she made propitiation with other drink offerings, calling on Zeus the Cleanser, the protector of murder-stained suppliants. And all the defilements in a mass her attendants bore forth from the palace—the Naiad nymphs who ministered all things to her. And within, Circe, standing by the hearth, kept burning atonement-cakes without wine, praying the while that she might stay from their wrath the terrible Furies, and that Zeus himself might be propitious and gentle to them both, whether with hands stained by the blood of a stranger or, as kinsfolk, by the blood of a kinsman, they should implore his grace.

But when she had wrought all her task, then she raised them up and seated them on well polished seats, and herself sat near, face to face with them. And at once she asked them clearly of their business and their voyaging, and whence they had come to her land and palace, and had thus seated themselves as suppliants at her hearth. For in truth the hideous remembrance of her dreams entered her mind as she pondered; and she longed to hear the voice of the maiden, her kinswoman, as soon as she saw that she had raised her eyes from the ground. For all those of the race of Helios were plain to discern, since by the far flashing of their eyes they shot in front of them a gleam as of gold. So Medea told her all she asked—the daughter of Aetes of the gloomy heart, speaking gently in the

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

Celestian tongue, both of the quest and the journeyings of the heroes, and of their toils in the swift contests, and how she had shined through the counsels of her much-sorrowing sister, and how with the sons of Phrixus she had fled afar from the tyrannous horrors of her father; but she shrink from telling of the murder of Apsyrtus. Yet she escaped not Circe's ken; nevertheless, in spite of all, she pitied the weeping maiden, and spake thus:

"Poor wretch, an evil and shameful return hast thou planned. Not for long, I ween, wilt thou escape the heavy wrath of Aetes; but soon will he go even to the dwellings of Hellas to avenge the blood of his son, for intolerable are the deeds thou hast done. But since thou art my suppliant and my kinswoman, no further ill shall I devise against thee at thy coming; but begone from my halls, commissioning the stranger, whosoever he be, this unknown one that thou hast taken in thy father's despite; and kneel not to me at my hearth, for never will I approve thy counsels and thy shameful flight."

Thus she spake, and measureless anguish seized the maid; and over her eyes she cast her robe and poured forth a lamentation, until the hero took her by the hand and led her forth from the hall quivering with fear. So they left the home of Circe.

But they were not unmarked by the spouse of Zeus, son of Cronos; but Iris told her when she saw them faring from the hall. For Hera had bidden her watch what time they should come to the ship; so again she urged her and spake:

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

rocks,¹ where roar terrible storms of fire and the waves foam round the rugged reefs. And now past the mighty rock of Scylla and Charybdis horribly belching, a course awaits them. But thee indeed from thy infancy did I tend with my own hands and love beyond all others that dwell in the salt sea because thou didst refuse to share the couch of Zeus, for all his desire. For to him such deeds are ever dear, to embrace either goddesses or mortal women. But in reverence for me and with fear in thy heart thou didst shrink from his love; and he then swore a mighty oath that thou shouldst never be called the bride of an immortal god. Yet he ceased not from spying thee against thy will, until reverend Themis declared to him the whole truth, how that it was thy fate to bear a son mightier than his sire; wherefore he gave thee up, for all his desire, fearing lest another should be his match and rule the immortals, and in order that he might ever hold his own dominion. But I gave thee the best of the sons of earth to be thy husband, that thou mightest find a marriage dear to thy heart and bear children; and I summoned to the feast the gods, one and all. And with my own hand I raised the bridal torch, in return for the kindly honour thou didst pay me. But come, let me tell a tale that erreth not. When thy son shall come to the Elysian plain, he whom now in the house of Chiron the Centaur water-nymphs are tending, though he still craves thy mother milk, it is fated

¹ The *Symplegades* are referred to, where help was given by Athena, not by Hera. It is strange that no mention is made of the *Phaethon*, properly so called, past which they are seen to be helped. Perhaps some lines have fallen out.

χρεώ μιν κούρης πόσιν ἔμμεναι Λιγύτας
 Μηδείης· σὺ δ' ἄρπυγε νυφ' ἐκυρή περ ἐοῦσα,
 ἥδ' αὐτῷ Πηλῇ. τί τοι χόλος ἐστήρικται;
 αἰσθή. καὶ γάρ τε θεοὺς ἐπινίσσεται ἤτη.
 ναὶ μὲν ἐφημοσύνησιν ἐμαῖς "Ἠφαιστον οἶω
 λαφίσσειν πρήσσοντα πυρὸς μένος, Ἴπποτάδην δὲ
 Διόλον ὠκείας ἀνέμων αἰκας ἐρύξειν,
 νόσφιν ἐνσταθέας ξεφύρου, ταῖως κεν ἴκωνται
 Φαιήκων λιμένας· σὺ δ' ἀκηδέα μήδεο νόστον.
 δεῖμα δέ τοι πέτραι καὶ ὑπέρβια κύματ' ἔασιν
 μοῖναι, ἃ κεν τρέψαισιν κασιγνήτησι σὺν ἄλλαις.
 μηδὲ σὺγ' ἥδ' Χίρυνθιδιν ἁμυχανέοντας εἴσῃ
 ἐσβαλέειν, μὴ πάντας ἀναβράξασα φέρῃσιν,
 ἥδ' παρὰ Σκύλλης στυγερὸν κενθμῶνα νέεσθαι,
 Σκύλλης Λύσονίης ὀλοόφρητος, ἣν τέκε Φόρκυι
 νυκτιπύλος Ἐκάτη, τήντε κλείουσι Κρύταινι.
 μή πως σμερδαλέοισιν ἐπαίξασα γένυσσιν
 λεκτοὺς ἡρώων δηλῆσεται. ἄλλ' ἔχε νῆα
 κεῖσ', ὅτι περ τυτθὴ γε παραίβιας ἐσσετ' ὀλέθρου.
 ὣς φάτο· τὴν δὲ τίθει τοῖφ' προσελέξατο μύθῳ·
 'Ὡ μὲν δὴ μαλεροῖο πυρὸς μένος ἠδὲ θυέλλαι
 ζαχρηεῖς λήξουσιν ἐτήτυμιν, ἦ τ' ἂν ἔγωγε
 θαρσαλέη φαίην, καὶ κύματος ἀντιόωντος
 νῆα σασσέμεναι, ξεφύρου λίγα κινυμένοιο.
 ἄλλ' οἶρη δολεχὴν τε καὶ ἄσπετον αἶμον ὀδεύειν,
 ἥφρα κασιγνήτας μετελεύσομαι, αἷ μοι ἥρωες
 ἔσσονται, καὶ νηὸς ὅθι πρυμνήσι' ἀνῆπται,
 οἷς κεν ὑπηφῶι μνησαῖατο νόστον εἰλέσθαι.
 Ἦ, καὶ ἀναίξασα κατ' αἰθέρος ἔμπης δίναις
 κυνέου πάντοιο· κῆλε δ' ἐπαμυνέμεν ἄλλας

829

836

840

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

that he be the husband of Medea, Aetes' daughter ; do thou aid thy daughter as a mother should, and aid Peleus himself. Why is thy wrath so steadfast ? He was blinded by folly. For blindness comes even upon the gods. Surely at my behest I deem that Hephaestus will cease from kindling the fury of his flame, and that Aeolus, son of Hippotas, will check his swift rushing winds, all but the steady west wind, until they reach the havens of the Phaeacians ; do thou devise a return without bane. The rocks and the tyrannous waves are my fear, they alone, and them thou canst foil with thy sisters' aid. And let them not fall in their helplessness into Charybdis lest she swallow them at one gulp, or approach the hideous lair of Scylla, Ausonian Scylla the deadly, whom night-wandering Hecate, who is called Crataeis,¹ bare to Phoreys, lest swooping upon them with her horrible jaws she destroy the chiefest of the heroes. But guide their ship in the course where there shall be still a hair's breadth escape from destruction."

Thus she spake, and Thetis answered with these words : " If the fury of the avenging flame and the stormy winds cease in very deed, surely will I promise boldly to save the ship, even though the waves bar the way, if only the west wind blows fresh and clear. But it is time to fare on a long and measureless path, in quest of my sisters who will aid me, and to the spot where the ship's hawsers are fastened, that at early dawn the heroes may take thought to win their home-return."

She spake, and darting down from the sky fell amid the eddies of the dark blue sea ; and she called

¹ i.e. the Mighty One.

ἀθάνατος, καὶ οἱ στρυγερὸν χρότ' γήρας ἀλάλκοι.
 αὐτὰρ δ' ἔξ' εὐνῆς ἀνεπιάλμενος εἰσενόησεν
 παῖδα φίλον σπαίροντα διὰ φλογός· ἦκε δ' αὐτὴν
 σμερδαλέην ἐσιδών, μέγα νήπιος· ἦ δ' αἶουσα
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' ἄρπαγδην χαμῖδις βίβλε κεκληγόντα,
 αὐτὴ δὲ πινυῖν ἰκέλη δέμας, ἧστ' ὄνειρος.
 βῆ ῥ' ἱμεν ἐκ μεγάρου θοῶς, καὶ ἐσῆλατο πάντων
 χασαμένη· μετὰ δ' οὔτι παλίσαντος ἴκετ' ὀπίσσω.
 τῷ μιν ἰμνηχανίῃ δῆσεν φρένας· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔμπης 690
 πᾶσαν ἐφημοσύνην θέτιδος μετέειπεν ἑταίροις.
 οἱ δ' ἄρα μεσσηγὺς λήξαν καὶ ἑπαυσαν ἑέθλους
 ἐσσυμένως, δόρπον τε χαμεύσας τ' ἀμφεπέποντο,
 τῆς ἐν δαισάμενοι νύκτ' ἔσαν, ὥς τὸ πείροιθεν.

Ἦμος δ' ἄκρον ἔβαλλε φασεσφόρος οὐρανὸν Ἰώης.

δὴ τότε λαίφηροιο κατηλυσίῳ ζεφύροιο
 βαῖνον ἐπὶ κληῖδας ἀπὸ χθονός· ἐκ δὲ βυθοῖο
 εὐναίας εἴλκον περυγηθείς ἄλλα τε πάντα
 ἤρμενα μὲνόντο κατὰ χρότος· ὕψι δὲ λαῖφος
 εἵρυσσαν τανύσαντες ἐν ἱμάντεσσι κεραίης. 700
 νῆα δ' ἐνκρατὴς ἄνεμος φέρεν. αἶψα δὲ νῆσον
 καλήν, Ἀμφεμέσσαν ἐσέδρακον, ἐνθα λίγειαί
 Σειρήναι σίωοντ' Ἀχελωίδες ἠδείησιν
 θέλγουσαι μολπῇσιν, ὅτις παρὰ πείσμα βάλοντο.
 τὰς μὲν ἄρ' εὐειδῆς Ἀχελωῖφ εὐνηθείσα
 γείνατο Τερψιχόρῃ, Μουσέων μία· καὶ ποτε Διοῦς
 θυγατέρ' ἰφθίμην ἀδμήτ' ἔτι πορσαίνεσκον
 ἄμματα μελπομέναι· τότε δ' ἄλλο μὲν αἰωνοῖσιν,
 ἄλλο δὲ παρθενότης ἐναλίγκιαι ἔσκον ἰδέσθαι.
 αἰεὶ δ' εὐόρμον ἐξεοκμῆναι ἐκ περιωπῆς 700
 ἢ θαμὰ δὴ πολλῶν μελιτῆδέα νόστον ἔλονται,

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

and that she might keep off from his body loathsome old age. But Pelus leapt up from his bed and saw his dear son gasping in the flame; and at the sight he uttered a terrible cry, fool that he was; and she heard it, and catching up the child threw him screaming to the ground, and herself like a breath of wind passed swiftly from the hall as a dream and leapt into the sea, exceeding wroth, and thereafter returned not again. Wherefore blank amazement fettered his soul; nevertheless he declared to his comrades all the bidding of Thetis. And they broke off in the midst and hurriedly ceased their contests, and prepared their meal and earth-strewn beds, whereon after supper they slept through the night as aforesaid.

Now when dawn the light-bringer was touching the edge of heaven, then at the coming of the swift west wind they went to their thwarts from the land; and gladly did they draw up the anchors from the deep and made the tackling ready in due order; and above spread the sail, stretching it taut with the sheets from the yard-arm. And a fresh breeze wafted the ship on. And soon they saw a fair island, Anthemoessa, where the clear-voiced Sirens, daughters of Achelous, used to beguile with their sweet songs whoever cast anchor there, and then destroy him. Them lovely Terpsichore, one of the Muses, bore, united with Achelous; and once they tended Demeter's noble daughter still unwept, and sang to her in chorus; and at that time they were fashioned in part like birds and in part like maidens to behold. And ever on the watch from their place of prospect with its fair haven, often from many had they taken away their sweet return, consuming

τηκεδόνι φθινύθουσαι· ἠπλησγέως δ' ἄρα καὶ τοῖς
 ἴεσαν ἐκ στομάτων ὅπα λείριον. οἱ δ' ἅπῃ νηὶς
 ἤδη πείσματ' ἔμελλον ἐπ' ἡμόνεσσι βαλέσθαι,
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' Οἰάγρῳ πάϊς Θρηίκιος Ὀρφεὺς
 Βιστωνίην ἐνὶ χερσὶν ἐαῖς φόρμυγγα τανύσσας
 κραεπνὸν ἐντροχάλοιο μέλος καυήχῃσεν ἰοιδῆς,
 ὅφρ' ἄμυνδιν κλανέοντος ἐπιβρομέωνται ἀκοαὶ
 κρηγμῶ· παρθενικὴν δ' ἐνοπὴν ἐβλήσατο φόρμυγξ.
 νῆα δ' ὁμοῦ ξέφυρός τε καὶ ἤχῃεν φέρε κύμα 910
 πρυμνόθεν ὀρνύμενον· ταῖ δ' ἄκριτον ἴεσαν αὐδῆν.
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς Τελέοντος εὖς πάϊς, οἷος ἐταίρων
 προφθάμενος, ξεστοῖο κατὰ ζυγοῦ ἐνθορε πόντῳ
 Βούτης, Σειρήνων λιγυρῇ ὀπὶ θυμὸν ἰανθείς·
 νῆχε δὲ πορφυρέοιο δι' οἴδματος, ὅφρ' ἐπιβαίῃ,
 σχέτλιος. ἦ τέ οἱ αἶψα καταυτῷθι νόστον ἠπυῖρων,
 ἰλλὰ μιν οἰκτεῖρᾶσα θεὰ Ἴρις κοῦρος μεδέουσα
 Κύπρις ἔτ' ἐν δίναις ἀνερείψατο, καὶ ῥ' ἐσάωσε
 πρύφρων ἀντομένη Λιλυβηίδα ναιέμεν ἄκρην.
 οἱ δ' ἄχεϊ σχόμενοι τῆς μὲν λίπον, ἀλλὰ δ' ὕπαζον 920
 κύντερα μισοδῆσιν ἄλῃς ραιστήρια νηῶν.

Τῇ μὲν γὰρ Σκύλλης λισσῇ προφθαίνετο πέτρῃ·
 τῇ δ' ἄμοτον βοιάσκειν ἠπαθλίζοντα Χάρυβδις
 ἄλλοθι δὲ Πλαγκταὶ μεγάλῳ ὑπὸ κύματι πέτραι
 ῥόχθεον, ἥχι πύρριθον ἀπέπτυνεν αἰθρομένη φλόξ
 ἄκρων ἐκ σκοπέλωσ, πυριθαλπέος ὑψόθι πέτρης,
 καπνῷ δ' ἀχλυνόεις αἰθῆρ πέλεν, οὐδέ κεν εὐγῆς
 ἔδρακες ἡέλειοι, τότ' αὖ λήξαντος ἀπ' ἔργων
 Ἰφαιστοῦ θερμὴν ἔτι κήκιε πόντος αὐτμήν.
 εὐθα σφιν κοῦραι Νηρηίδες ἄλλοθεν ἄλλαι

ἦν τε αὖν ἡ δ' ὀπίθεν πτέρυγος θύγε πηδαλίοιο
 ἡἷα θέτις, Πλαγκτῆσιν ἐνὶ σπιλάδεσσιν ἐρύσσαι,
 ὡς δ' ὀπότεαν δελφῖνες ὑπέξ ἁλὸς εὐδιόωντες
 σπερχομένην ἀγγελῆδον ἐλίσσονται περὶ νῆα,
 ἄλλοτε μὲν προπάρειθεν ὁρώμενοι, ἄλλοτ' ὀπισθεν,
 ἄλλοτε παρβολάδην, ναύτησι δὲ χάρμα τέτυκται
 ὥς αἱ ὑπεκπροθέουσαι ἐπήτριμοι εἰλίσσαντο
 Ἄργῃ περὶ νηί, θέτις δ' ἴθυνε κέλευθον.
 καὶ ῥ' ὅτε δὴ Πλαγκτῆσιν ἐνεχρόμψεσθαι ἔμελλον,
 αὐτίκ' ἀνασχόμεναι λευκοῖς ἐπὶ γούνασι πέζας, 240
 ὑφ' οὗ ἐπ' αὐτάων σπιλάδων καὶ κύματος ἡγῆς
 ῥώοντ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα διασταδὸν ἑλλήλυσιν.
 τὴν δὲ παρηγορίην κόπτειν ῥόος· ἀμφὶ δὲ κύμα
 λάβρον ἰειρόμενον πέτραις ἐπικαχλίζεσκεν,
 αἷθ' ὅτε μὲν κρημνοῖς ἐναλίγκιαι ἤερι κύρου,
 ἄλλοτε δὲ βρύχαις νεάτω ὑπὸ πυθμένι πύοντου
 ἠρήρειν, τὸ δὲ πολλὸν ὑπείρεχεν ἄγριον οἶδμα.
 αἱ δ', ὥστ' ἡμαθόεντος ἐπισχεδὸν αἰγιαλοῖο
 παρθεμικαί, δέχα κόλπον ἐπ' ἰξύας εἰλίσσασαι,
 σφαῖρῃ ἰθύρουσιν περιηγεί· αἱ μὲν ἔπειτα 250
 ἄλλῃ ὑπ' ἐξ ἄλλης δέχεται καὶ ἐς ἡέρα πέμπει
 ὕψι μεταχρονίην· ἡ δ' οὐποτε πλανάται οὔδεις·
 ὡς αἱ νῆα θέουσιν ἡμοιβὰς ἄλλοθεν ἄλλῃ
 πέμπε διηερίην ἐπὶ κύμασιν, ἀλλ' ἄπωθεν
 πετράων· περὶ δὲ σφιν ἐρευγόμενον ζέειν ὕδαρ.
 τῆς δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς ἀναξ κορυφῆς ἐπὶ λισσάδος ἄκρης
 ὀρθὸς ἐπὶ στελεῇ τυπιδὸς βαρὺν ἴωμον ἐρείσας
 Ἥφαιστος ἀηεῖτο, καὶ ἀνγλήεντος ὑπερθεῖν
 οὐρανοῦ ἐστηνῖα Διὸς δάμαρ· ἡμφὶ δ' Ἀθήνη

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

the love of Maëris. Whence it is called Drepane,¹ the sacred nurse of the Phæaciæans; and thus the Phæaciæans themselves are by birth of the blood of Uranus. To them came Argo, held fast by many toils, borne by the breezes from the Thracian sea; and Alcinous and his people with kindly sacrifice gladly welcomed their coming; and over them all the city made merry; thou wouldst say they were rejoicing over their own sons. And the heroes themselves strode in gladness through the throng, even as though they had set foot in the heart of Hæmonia; but soon were they to arm and raise the battle-cry; so near to them appeared a boundless host of Colchians, who had passed through the mouth of Pontus and between the Cysæan rocks in search of the elixirs. They desired forthwith to carry off Medea to her father's house apart from the rest, or else they threatened with fierce cruelty to raise the dread war-cry both then and thereafter on the coming of Æetes. But lordly Alcinous checked them amid their eagerness for war. For he longed to allay the lawless strife between both sides without the clash of battle. And the maiden in deadly fear often implored the comrades of Aeson's son, and often with her hands touched the knees of Arete, the bride of Alcinous:

"I beseech thee, O queen, be gracious and deliver me not to the Colchians to be borne to my father, if thou thyself too art one of the race of mortals, whose heart rushes swiftly to ruin from light transgressions. For my firm sense forsook me—it was not for wantonness. Be witness the sacred light of Helios, be witness the rites of the maiden that

¹ *i.e.* the Siceloid island.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

wanders by night, daughter of Perseus. Not willingly did I haste from my home with men of an alien race; but a horrible fear wrought on me to bethink me of flight when I sinned; other device was there none. Still my maiden's girdle remains, as in the halls of my father, unstained, untouched. Pity me, lady, and turn thy lord to mercy; and may the immortals grant thee a perfect life, and joy, and children, and the glory of a city unruined!"

Thus did she implore Arete, shedding tears, and thus each of the chieftains in turn:

"On your account, ye men of peerless might, and on account of my toils in your ventures am I sorely afflicted; even I, by whose help ye yoked the bulls, and reaped the deadly harvest of the earthborn men; even I, through whom on your homeward path ye shall hear to Haemonia the golden fleece. Lo, here am I, who have lost my country and my parents, who have lost my home and all the delights of life; to you have I restored your country and your homes; with eyes of gladness ye will see again your parents; but from me a heavy-handed god has reft all joy; and with strangers I wander, an accursed thing. Fear your covenant and your oaths, fear the Fury that avenges suppliants and the retribution of heaven, if I fall into Aetes' hands and am slain with grievous outrage. To no shrines, no tower of defence, no other refuge do I pay heed, but only to you. Hard and pitiless in your cruelty! No reverence have ye for me in your heart though ye see me helpless, stretching my hands towards the knees of a stranger queen; yet, when ye longed to seize the fleece,

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

ye would have met all the Colchians face to face and haughty Aetes himself: but now ye have forgotten your courage, now that they are all alone and cut off."

Thus she spake, beseeching; and to whomsoever she bowed in prayer, that man tried to give her heart and to check her anguish. And in their hands they shook their sharp pointed spears, and drew the swords from their sheaths; and they swore they would not hold back from giving succour, if she should meet with an unrighteous judgement. And the host were all wearied and Night came on them, Night that puts to rest the works of men, and lulled all the earth to sleep; but to the maid no sleep brought rest, but in her bosom her heart was wrung with anguish. Even as when a toiling woman turns her spindle through the night, and round her nuan her orphan children, for she is a widow, and down her cheeks fall the tears, as she bethinks her how dreary a lot hath seized her; so Medea's cheeks were wet; and her heart within her was in agony, pierced with sharp pain.

Now within the palace in the city, as aforetime, lay lordly Aleinous and Aete, the revered wife of Aleinous, and on their couch through the night they were devising plans about the maiden; and lo! as her wedded husband, the wife addressed with loving words:

"Yea, my friend, come, save the woo-stricken maid from the Colchians and show grace to the Minyae. Argos is near our isle and the men of Haemonia; but Aetes dwells not near, nor do we know of Aetes one whit: we hear but his name; but this maiden of dread suffering hath broken my

μή μιν, ἄναξ, Κόλχοισι πόροις ἐς πατρός ἄγεσθαι.
 ἀάσθῃ, ὅτε πρῶτα βοῶν θελκτῆρια δῶκεν
 φάρμακά οἱ· σχεδόνθεν δὲ κακῷ κακόν, αἰά τε
 πολλὰ

1089

ῥέζομεν ἀμπλακίσιν, ἀκαιομένη ὑπάλυξεν
 πατρός ὑπερφύλοιο βαρὺν χόλον. αὐτὰρ Ἴήσων,
 ὡς αἴω, μεγάλοισιν ἐνίσχεται ἐξ ἔθεν ἔρκοις,
 κουριδίην θήσεσθαι ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἄκοιτιν.
 τῷ, φίλε, μήτ' οὖν αὐτὸν ἐκὼν ἐπίορκον ὁμῶσαι
 θείης Αἰσονίδην, μήτ' ἄσχετα σεῖο ἔκῃτι
 παῖδα πατὴρ θυμῷ κεκατηότι δηλήσαιτο.
 λήν γάρ δύσζηλοι ἑαῖς ἐπὶ παισὶ τοκῆς·
 οἶα μὲν Ἀντιωπην εὐνόπιδα μήσατο Νυκτεὺς·
 οἶα δὲ καὶ Δανιὴ πόντεσσι πῆματ' ἰνέτλη,
 πατρός ἀτασθαλίῃσι νέον γε μὲν, αὐδ' ἰπποτηλοῦ,
 ὕβριστὴς ἔχετος γλάναις ἐνὶ χυλίκῃα κέντρα
 πῆξε θυγατρὸς ἑῆς· στονόεντι δὲ κάρφεται οἷτφ
 ὀρφναίῃ ἐνὶ χυλίκῃ ἀλετρεύοντα καλῇ.

1090

Ὡς ἔφατ' ἀνταμένη· τοῦ δὲ φρένες λαΐνοντο
 ἥς ἀλόχου μύθοισιν, ἔπος δ' ἐπὶ τοῖον ἔειπεν·

Ἄριστη, καὶ κεν σὺν τεύχεσιν ἐξελεύσαιοι
 Κόλχους, ἡρώεσσι φέρων χίριν, εἵνεκα κούρης.
 ἀλλὰ Διὸς δεῖδοικα δίκην ἰδέσθαι ἀτίσσαι.

1100

οὐδὲ μὲν Αἰήτην ἀθεριζέμεν, ὥς ἀγορεύεις,
 λῶιον· σὺ γάρ τις βασιλεύτερος Αἰήτας.
 καὶ κ' ἐθέλων, ἑκαθέν περ, ἐφ' Ἑλλάδι νεῖκος
 ἄγοιτο.

τῷ μ' ἐπέοικε δίκην, ἥτις μετὰ πᾶσιν ἰρίστη
 ἔσσεται ἀνθρώποισι, δικαζέμεν οὐδέ σε κεύσω.
 παρθενικὴν μὲν εἶδον ἐφ' ἀπὸ πατρὶ κομίσσαι
 ἰθύνῃ· λέκτρον δὲ σὺν ἀνέρι πορπαίνουσιν

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

heart by her prayers. O king, give her not up to the Colchians to be borne back to her father's home. She was distraught when first she gave him the drugs to charm the oxen; and next, to cure one ill by another, as in our sinning we do often, she fled from her haughty sire's heavy wrath. But Jason, as I hear, is bound to her by mighty oaths that he will make her his wedded wife within his halls. Wherefore, my friend, make not, of thy will, Aeson's son to be forsworn, nor let the father, if thou canst help, work some intolerable mischief on his child. For fathers are all too jealous against their children; what wrong did Nycteus devise against Antiope, fair of face! What woes did Danaë endure on the wide sea through her sire's mad rage! Of late, and not far away, Pelietus in wanton cruelty thrust spikes of bronze in his daughter's eyes; and by a grievous fate is she wasting away, grinding grains of bronze in a dungeon's gloom."

Thus she spake, beseeching; and by his wife's words his heart was softened, and thus he spake:

"Arete, with arms I could drive forth the Colchians, showing grace to the heroes for the maiden's sake. But I fear to set at naught the righteous judgement of Zeus. Nor is it well to take no thought of Aetes, as thou sayest: for none is more lordly than Aetes. And, if he willed, he might bring war upon Hellas, though he dwell afar. Wherefore it is right for me to deliver the judgement that in all men's eyes shall be best; and I will not hide it from thee. If she be yet a maid I decree that they carry her back to her father; but if she shares a husband's bed, I will not separate her from her lord; nor, if

οὐ μιν ἰοῦ πάσιος νοσφίσσομαι· οὐδέ, γενέθλιον
οἷ τιν' ὑπὸ σπλῆγγχοισι φέροι, δῆλοισιν ὁπάσσω.

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· καὶ τὸν μὲν ἐπισχεδὸν εἵνασεν
ὑπνος.

1110

ἢ δ' ἔπος ἐν θυμῷ πυκινὸν βύλει· αὐτίκα δ' ὤρτο
ἐκ λεχέων ἀνὰ δῶμα· συνήϊξαν δὲ γυναῖκες
ἀμφίπολοι, δέσποιναν ἐὴν μέτα ποιπνύουσαι.
σῖγα δ' εὖν κήρυκα καλεσσαμένη προσέειπεν.
ἦσιν ἐπιφροσύνησιν ἐποτρυνέουσα μεγῆναι
Λίσσινδην κούρην, μηδ' Ἀλκίνοον βασιλῆα
λίσσεσθαι· τὸ γὰρ αὐτὸς ἰὼν Κόλχοισι δικάσσει.
παρθενικὴν μὲν ἰούσαν ἰοῦ ποτὶ δῶματα πατρὸς
ἐκδώσειν, λέκτρον δὲ σὺν ἀνέρι πορσαίνουσιν
οὐκέτι κουριδίης μιν ἀποτμήξειν φιλότῃτος.

1120

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· τὸν δ' αἶψα πόδες φέρον ἐκ μεγάρου,
ὣς κεν Ἰήσωνι μῦθον ἐναίστιμον ἀγγελίλειεν
Ἀρήτης βουλῆς τε θεουδέας Ἀλκινόου.
τοὺς δ' εὗρεν παρὰ νηὶ σὺν ἔντεσιν ἐγρήσσοντας
Ἑλλὰς ἐν λιμένι, σχεδὸν ἵστεος· ἐκ δ' ἄρα πᾶσαν
πέφραδεν ἀγγελίην· γήθησε δὲ θυμὸς ἐκάστου
ἥρώων· μῆλα γάρ σφιν ἑαδότα μῦθον ἔειπεν.

Αὐτίκα δὲ κρητῆρα κερασσόμενοι μακάρεσσιν
ἢ θέμις, εὐαγέως ἐπιβώμια μῆλ' ἐρύσαντες,
αὐτονοχὶ κούρῃ θαλαμῆιον ἔντυον εὐνὴν
ἄνθρω ἐν ὑγαθέῳ, τύθι δὴ ποτε Μάκρις ἔναιεν,
κούρῃ Ἀρισταίῳ μελέφρονος, ὅς ῥα μελίσσέων
ἔργα πολυκμήτοιο τ' ἀνεύρατο πῖον ἐλαίης.
κεῖνη δὲ πᾶμπρωτα Διὸς Νυσήϊον υἱά
Ἐὐβοίης ἔντοσθεν Ἀβαντίδος ῥ' ἐνὶ κόλπῳ
δέξατο, καὶ μέλιτι ξηρὸν περὶ χεῖλος ἔδενυσεν,
εὐτέ μιν Ἑρμείας φέρεν ἐκ πυρός· ἔδρακε δ' Ἥρη,
καὶ ἐχολωσαμένη πύσης ἐξήλασε νήσων.

1130

ἦ δ' ἄρα Φαιήκων ἱερῷ ἐνὶ τηλόθεν ἄντρον
 νίσσατο, καὶ πόρεν ὄλβον ἀθέσφατον ἐναέτῃσιν. 1140
 ἔνθα τότ' ἐστόρεσαν λέκτρον μέγα· τοιοῦτον δ' ὕπερθεν
 χρύσειον αἰγλήεν κῶας βάλλον, ὅφρα πέλοιτο
 τιμήεις τε γάμος καὶ αἰοίδιμος. ἄνθεα δὲ σφιν
 νύμφαι ἡμεργόμεναι λευκοῖς ἐνὶ ποικίλῃς κόλποις
 ἐσφόρεον· πάσας δὲ πυρρὸν ὥς ἄμφεπεν αἰγλή·
 τοῖον ἀπὸ χρυσέων θυσάνων ἡμαρύσσετο φέγγος.
 δαίτε δ' ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς γλυκερὸν πόθον· ἴσχε δ'
 ἑκάστην

αἰδὼς ἱεμένην περ ὁμῶς ἐπὶ χεῖρα βαλέσθαι.
 αἰ μὲν τ' Αἰγυαίου ποταμοῦ καλέοντο θύγατρες·
 αἰ δ' ἄρεος κορυφᾶς Μελιτηνίου ἡμφενέοντο· 1150
 αἰ δ' ἔσαν ἐκ πεδίων Ἀλσηίδες. ὄρσε γὰρ αὐτῇ
 "Ἡρῃ Ζηνὸς ἄκοιτις, Ἰήσωνα κυδαίνουσα,
 κεῖνο καὶ εἰσέτι νῦν ἱερὸν κληίζεται ἄντρον
 Μηδείης, ὅθι ταύσγε σὺν Ἀλλήλοισιν ἔμιξαν
 τεινύμεναι ἑανοῦς εὐώδους. αἰ δ' ἐνὶ χερσὶν
 δαύρατα νομήσαντες ἡρήια, μὴ πρὶν ἐς ἱλκήν
 δυσμενέων ἰδύμεναις ἐπιβρίσειεν ὄμιλος,
 κρύατα δ' εὐφύλλοις ἐστεμμένοι ἡκρεμόνεσσαν,
 ἑμμελέως, Ὀρφῆος ὑπαὶ λίγα φορμίζοντος
 νυμφιδίαις ὑμέναιον ἐπὶ προμολῇσιν αἰεῖδον. 1160
 οὐ μὲν ἐν Ἀλκωνόοιο γάμον μενέαινε τελέεσσαι
 ἦρως Αἰσανίδης, μεγάρους δ' ἐνὶ πατρὸς ἐοῖο,
 νοστήσας ἐς Ἰωλκὸν ὑπὸ τροπῶν· ὥς δὲ καὶ αὐτῇ
 Μῆδεια φρονέεσκε· τότ' αὖ χρεῶ ἤγε μιγῆναι.
 ἀλλὰ γὰρ οὐποτε φύλα ὀνηπαθέων ἀνθρώπων
 τερπικλῆς ἐπέβημεν ὄλω ποδί· σὺν δέ τις αἰεὶ
 πικρὴ παρμέμβλωκεν ἐνφροσύνησιν ἀνίη.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

to dwell far off, in the sacred cave of the Phæacians, and granted boundless wealth to the inhabitants. There at that time did they spread a mighty couch; and thereon they laid the glittering fleece of gold, that so the marriage might be made honoured and the theme of song. And for them nymphs gathered flowers of varied hue and bore them thither in their white bosoms; and a splendour as of flame played round them all, such a light gleamed from the golden tufts. And in their eyes it kindled a sweet longing; yet for all her desire, awe withheld each one from laying her hand thereon. Some were called daughters of the river Aegæus; others dwelt round the crests of the Meliteian mount; and others were woodland nymphs from the plains. For Hera herself, the spouse of Zeus, had sent them to do honour to Jason. That cave is to this day called the sacred cave of Medea, where they spread the fine and fragrant linen and brought these two together. And the heroes in their hands wielded their spears for war, lest first a host of foes should burst upon them for battle unawares, and, their heads entwined with leafy sprays, all in harmony, while Orpheus' harp rang clear, sang the marriage song at the entrance to the bridal chamber. Yet not in the house of Alcinoüs was the hero, Aeson's son, minded to complete his marriage, but in his father's hall when he had returned home to Iolcus; and such was the mind of Medea herself; but necessity led them to wed at this time. For never in truth do we tribes of woe-stricken mortals tread the path of delight with sure foot; but still some bitter affliction keeps pace with our joy. Wherefore they too, though their souls were melted

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with sweet love, were held by fear, whether the sentence of Alcinous would be fulfilled.

Now dawn returning with her beams divine scattered the gloomy night through the sky; and the island beaches laughed out and the paths over the plains far off, drenched with dew, and there was a din in the streets; the people were astir throughout the city, and far away the Colchians were astir at the bounds of the Isle of Maëria. And straight-way to them went Alcinous, by reason of his covenant, to declare his purpose concerning the maiden; and in his hand he held a golden staff, his staff of justice, whereby the people had righteous judgments meted out to them throughout the city. And with him in order due and arrayed in their harness of war went marching, hand by hand, the chiefs of the Phæaciens. And from the towers came forth the women in crowds to gaze upon the heroes; and the country folk came to meet them when they heard the news, for Hera had sent forth a true report. And one led the chosen ram of his flock, and another a heifer that had never toiled; and others set hard by jars of wine for mixing; and the smoke of sacrifice leapt up far away. And women bore fine linen, the fruit of much toil, as women will, and gifts of gold and varied ornaments as well, such as are brought to newly-wedded brides; and they marvelled when they saw the shapely forms and beauty of the gallant heroes, and among them the son of Oëagrus, oft beating the ground with gleaming sandal, to the time of his loud-ringing lyre and song. And all the nymphs together, whenever he recalled the marriage, uplifted the lovely bridal-chant; and at times again they sang alone as they

οἴοθεν οἶαι ἄειδον ἐλισσόμεναι περὶ κύκλον,
 "Ἡρῃ, σείο ἔκκεν· σὺ γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκας
 Ἀρήτῃ, πυκινὸν φάσθαι ἔπος Ἀλκινόοιο. 1200
 αὐτὰρ ὃγ' ὥς τὰ πρῶτα δίκης ἀνὰ πείρατ' εἰπὼν
 ἰθείης, ἦδη δὲ γάμου τέλος ἐκλήμστο,
 ἔμπεδον ὥς ἀλέγυνε διαμπερές· οὐδέ ἐ τάρβος
 οὐλοῦν, οὐδέ βαρεῖαι ἐπ' ἡλυθον Λήηται
 μῆνιν, ἀρρήκτοισι δ' ἐνιζεύξας ἔχεν ὄρκοις.
 τῷ καὶ ὅτ' ἤλεμέτῳ Κόλχοι μάθον ἀντιόωντες,
 καὶ σφεας ἢ θέμιστας ἐὰς εἴρυσθαι ἀνωγεν,
 ἢ λιμένων γαίης τ' ἀποτηλόθι νῆας ἐέργειν,
 δὴ τότε μιν βασιλῆος ἐοῦ τρομέοντες ἐνιπὰς
 δέχθαι μειλίζαντο συνήμονας· αὐθι δὲ νῆσιν 1210
 δῶν μῖλα Φαιήκεσσι μετ' ἀνδράσι ναιετάασκου,
 εἰσότε Βακχιάδαι, γενεὴν Ἐφύρῃθην εὔντες,
 ἀνέρες ἐνούσσαντο μετὰ χρόνον· οἱ δὲ περαῖον
 νῆσον ἔβαν· κείθεν δὲ Κεραῦνια μέλλον Ἀβάντων
 αὔρεα, Νεοταίους τε καὶ Ὀρικὸν εἰσαφικέσθαι·
 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν σταίχοντος ἄδην αἰῶνος ἐτύχθη.
 Μοιράων δ' ἔτι κεῖσε θύῃ ἐπέτεια δέχονται
 καὶ Νυμφέων Νομίοιο καθ' ἱερὸν Ἀπόλλωνος
 βωμοί, τοὺς Μυῖδεια καθίσσατο, πολλὰ δ' ἰοῦσιν 1220
 Ἀλκίνοος Μινύαις ξεινήια, πολλὰ δ' ὅπασσεν
 Ἀρήτῃ· μετὰ δ' αὖτε δυώδεκα δῶκεν ἔπεισθαι
 Μηδείῃ δρῶντας Φαιηκίδας ἐκ μεγάρων.
 ἡματι δ' ἐβδόματ' Ἀρεπάνην λίπον· ἤλυθε δ' αὔρος
 ἀκραῆς ἠῶθεν ὑπὲρ Διός· οἱ δ' ἀνέμοιο
 πνοιῇ ἐπειγόμενοι προτέρῳ θεῶν. ἀλλὰ γὰρ οὐπω

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circled in the dance, Hera, in thy honour; for it was thou that didst put it into the heart of Arete to proclaim the wise word of Aleinous. And as soon as he had uttered the decree of his righteous judgement, and the completion of the marriage had been proclaimed, he took care that thus it should abide fixed; and no deadly fear touched him nor Aeetes' grievous wrath, but he kept his judgement fast bound by unbroken oaths. So when the Colchians learnt that they were beseeching in vain and he bade them either observe his judgements or hold their ships away from his harbours and land, then they began to dread the threats of their own king and besought Aleinous to receive them as comrades; and there in the island long time they dwelt with the Phaeacians, until in the course of years, the Baechiadae, a race sprung from Epiphyra,¹ settled among them; and the Colchians passed to an island opposite; and thence they were destined to reach the Ceraunian hills of the Abantes, and the Nestaeans and Oricum; but all this was fulfilled after long ages had passed. And still the altars which Medea built on the spot sacred to Apollo, god of shepherds, receive yearly sacrifices in honour of the Fates and the Nymphs. And when the Minyae departed many gifts of friendship did Aleinous bestow, and many Arete; moreover she gave Medea twelve Phaeacian handmaids from the palace, to bear her company. And on the seventh day they left Drepane; and at dawn came a fresh breeze from Zeus. And onward they sped borne along by the wind's breath. Howbeit not yet was

¹ The old name of Corinth.

αἰσιμον ἦν ἐπιβῆναι Ἀχαιίδες ἠρώεσσιν,
ὄφρ' ἔτι καὶ Λιβύης ἐπὶ πείρασιν ὀτλήσειαν.

Ἦδη μὲν παθὶ κόλπον ἐπ' ὤνυστον Ἀμβρακίῳ,
ἤδη Κουρήτιν ἔλειπον χθόνα πεπταμένοισιν
λαΐφεισι καὶ στενωὸς αὐταῖν σὺν Ἐχινύσι νήσους
ἐξείης, Πέλοπος δὲ νέον κατεφαίνετο γαῖα·
καὶ τότε ἄναρ πύγδην ὅλοῃ βορέας θύελλα
μεσσηγὺς πέλαγόςδε Λιβυστικὸν ἐννέα πάσας
νύκτας ὁμῶς καὶ τόσσα φέρ' ἤματα, μέχρ' ἴκοντο
προπρὸ μάλ' ἐνδοθι Σύρτιν, ὅθ' οὐκέτι νύστος
ὀπίσσω

νηυσὶ πέλει, ὅτε τόνγε βιάτο κόλπον ἰκέσθαι.
πάντῃ γὰρ τέναγος, πάντῃ μνίσεντα βυθοῖο
τύρφεα· κούφη δὲ σφιν ἐπιβλύει ὕδατος ἄχνη·
ἠέρη δ' ἄμαθος παρακέκλιται· οὐδέ τι κείσσι
ἐρπετόν, οὐδέ ποτήτων ἀείρεται. ἐνθ' ἄρα τούσγε
πλημμυρίς—καὶ γάρ τ' ἄναχύζεται ἠπείροιο
ἢ θηρὰ δὴ τότε χεῦμα, καὶ ἄψ' ἐπερεύρεται ἰκτὰς
λίβρον ἐπαιχόμενον—μυχάτῃ ἐνέωσε τάχιστα
ἡμίον, τρόπιος δὲ μάλ' ὕδασι παῦρον ἔλειπτο.
οἱ δ' ἀπὸ νηὸς ὄρουσαν, ἄχος δ' ἔλεν εἰσορόωντας
ἡέρα καὶ μεγάλῃς νῶτα χθονὸς ἠέρι Ἴσα,
τηλοῦ ὑπερτείνοντα διηνεκές· οὐδέ τι ν' ἠρδμόν,
οὐ πάτον, οὐκ ἀπάνευθε κατηνγιάσσαντο βοτήρων
αὔλιον, εὐκήλων δὲ κατείχετο πάντα γαλήνη.
ἄλλος δ' αὐτ' ἄλλον τετυημένος ἐφερέεινεν

Ἦ Τίς χθὼν εὐχεται ἦδε; πόθι ξυνέωσαν ἄελλαι
ἡμέας; αἰθ' ἔτλημεν, ἀφειδέες σὺλομένοιο
δείματος, αὐτὰ κέλευθα διαμπερές ὀρμηθῆναι
πετρώων. ἢ τ' ἂν καὶ ὑπὲρ Διὸς αἴσαν ἰούσιν
βέλτερον ἦν μέγα δὴ τι μενοιυάοντας ὀλέσθαι.
νῦν δὲ τί κεν ῥέξαιμεν, ἐροκόμενοι ἀνέμοισιν

αὐθι μένειν τυτθὸν περ ἐπὶ χρόνον· οἷον ἐρίμη
πέζα διωλυγίης ἀναπέπταται ἡπείροιο.¹

*Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· μετὰ δ' αὐτὸς ἀμυχανήν κακότητος
ἰθυντήρ' Ἀγκαῖος ἀκηχέμενος ἀγύρευσεν·

1269

'Ὀλόμεθ' αἰνότατον δῖθ' ἐν μόρον, οὐδ' ἐπάλυξίς
ἔστ' ἄτης· πύρα δ' ἄμμι τὰ κύντατα πημανθῆναι
τῇδ' ὑπ' ἐρημαίῃ πεπτηότας, εἰ καὶ αἷται
χερσόθεν ἀμπνεύσειαν· ἐπεὶ τεναγῶδεα λεύσσω
τῆλε περισκοπέων ἅλα πῖντοθεν· ἤλαθα δ' ὕδωρ
ξαινόμενον ποδιῇσιν ἐπιτροχάει ψαμμίθουσιν.
καί κεν ἐπισμυγερῶς διὰ δὴ πύλαι ἧδ' ἐκείσθῃ
νῆς ἱερὴ χέρσου πολλὸν πρόσω· ἰλλὰ μιν αὐτὴ
πλημμυρὶς ἐκ πάντοιο μεταχθονίῃ ἐκόμισσεν.
νῦν δ' ἡ μὲν πέλαγόςδε μετέσσονται, οἷόθι δ' ἄλμῃ

1270

ἀπλοῶς εἰλεῖται, γαίης ὑπερ ὅσσον ἔχουσα.
τοῖνεκ' ἐγὼ πᾶσαν μὲν ἀπ' ἐλπίδα φημι κεκόφθαι
ναυτιλίης νόστου τε· δαημοσύνην δέ τις ἄλλος
φαίνοι ἐφ'· πύρα γάρ οἱ ἐπ' αἰήκεσσι θαύσσειν
μαιομένῳ κομιδῆς· ἀλλ' οὐ μῆλα νόστιμον ἦμαρ
Ζεὺς ἐθέλει καμάτοισιν ἐφ' ἡμετέροισι τελέσσαι·

*Ὡς φάτο δακρυόεις· σὺν δ' ἔννεπον ἄσχαλόωντι
ὅσσοι ἔσαν νηῶν δεδαημένοι· ἐν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν
παχνύθη κραδίη, χύτο δὲ χλός ἀμφὶ παρείης.
οἷον δ' ἀψύχοισιν εὐικότες εἰδώλοισιν
ἀνέρες εἰλίσσονται ἀνὰ πτόλιν, ἢ πολέμοιο
ἢ λοιμοῖο τέλος ποτιδέγμενοι, ἢ τιν' ὄμβρον
ἄσπετον, ὅσπερ βοῶν κατὰ μυρία ἐκλυσεν ἔργα,
ἢ ὅταν αὐτόματα ξόανα βῆν ἰδρώοντα
αἵματι, καὶ μυκαὶ σηκοῖς ἐνὶ φαντάζωνται,
ἢ καὶ ἡέλιος μέσῳ ἡματι νύκτ' ἐπάγῃσιν

1280

¹ φαίτω ἴφρ Madvig; φαίτωρ Lf.

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

by the winds to stay here, if ever so short a time?
How desolate looms before us the edge of the
limitless land!

Thus one spake; and among them Aeneas the
helmsman, in despair at their evil case, spoke with
grieving heart: "Verily we are undone by a terrible
doom; there is no escape from ruin; we must suffer
the cruellest woes, having fallen on this desolation,
even though breezes should blow from the land; for,
as I gaze far around, on every side do I behold a sea
of shoals, and masses of water, fretted line upon line,
run over the hoary sand. And miserably long ago
would our sacred ship have been shattered far from
the shore; but the tide itself bore her high on to the
land from the deep sea. But now the tide rushes
back to the sea, and only the foam, whereon no ship
can sail, rolls round us, just covering the land. Where-
fore I deem that all hope of our voyage and of our
return is cut off. Let someone else show his skill;
let him sit at the helm—the man that is eager for
our deliverance. But Zeus has no will to fulfil our
day of return after all our toils."

Thus he spake with tears, and all of them that had
knowledge of ships agreed thereto; but the hearts of
all grew numb, and pallor overspread their cheeks.
And as, like lifeless spectres, men roam through a
city awaiting the issue of war or of pestilence, or
some mighty storm which overwhelms the countless
labours of oxen, when the images of their own
accord sweat and run down with blood, and bellowings
are heard in temples, or when at mid-day the sun
draws on night from heaven, and the stars shine

‘Κάμμορε, τίπτ’ ἐπὶ τόσσον ἀμνηχανὴν βεβύ-
λῃσαι;

Ἴδμεν ἐποικομένους χρύσειον δέρος· ἴδμεν ἕκαστα
ὑμετέρων καμάτων, ὅσ’ ἐπὶ χθονός, ὅσσα τ’ ἐφ’ ὑγρὴν 1320
πλαζόμενοι κατὰ πόντον ὑπέρβια ἔργ’ ἐκάμεσθε.
οἰοπόλοι δ’ εἰμὲν χθόνηναι θεὰ αὐδῆσσαι,
ἡρῶσσαι, Λιβύης τιμήοροι ἠδὲ θύγατρες.
ἀλλ’ ἄνα· μηδ’ ἔτι τοῖον οἰζύων ἀκάχησο·
ἄνστησον δ’ ἐτάρους. εὖτ’ ἂν δέ τοι Ἀμφιτρίτη
ἄρμα Ποσειδάωνος εὐτροχον αὐτίκα λύσῃ,
δὴ ῥα τότε σφετέρῃ ἀπὸ μητέρι τίνετ’ ἀμοιβὴν
ὣν ἕκαμεν δηρὸν κατὰ νηδύος ὕμμε φέρουσα·
καὶ κεν ἔτ’ ἡγαθέην ἐς Ἀχαιίδα νοστήσαιτε.

Ὡς ἄρ’ ἔφαν, καὶ ἄφαντοι ἦν’ ἕσταθεν, ἐνθ’ ἄρα
ταίγε

1330

φθογγῇ ὕμου ἐγένοντο παρασχεδόν. αὐτὰρ Ἰήσων
παπτήνας ἰν’ ἄρ’ ἔξετ’ ἐπὶ χθονός, ὧδέ τ’ εἶπεν·

‘Ἰλατ’ ἐρημονόμοι κυδραὶ θεαί· ἀμφὶ δὲ νύστω
οὔτι μαλ’ ἀντικρὺ νοέω φάιν. ἥ μὲν ἐταίρους
εἰς ἐν ἡγειρούμενος μυθήσομαι, εἴ νύ τι τέκμων
δῆλωμεν κομιδῆς· πολέων δέ τε μῆτις ἡρείων.

Ἢ, καὶ ἰναίξας ἐταίρους ἐπὶ μακρὸν αἴτει,
αὐσταλέος κοίῃσι, λέων ὥς, ὅς ῥά τ’ ἂν ὕλην
σύννομον ἦν μεθέπων ὠρύεται· αἱ δὲ βαρεῖη
φθογγῇ ὑποτρομέουσιν ἂν οὔρεα τηλόθι βῆσσαι· 1340
δείματι δ’ ἄγραυλοί τε βόες μέγα πεφρίκασιν
βουπελάται τε βοῶν· τοῖς δ’ οὔ νύ τι γῆρυς ἐτύχθη
ρίγεδανῇ ἐταίριοι φίλους ἐπικεκλομένοιο.
ἡγχυῷ δ’ ἡγερέθοντο κατηφές· αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῦσγε
ἡχθυμένους ὁρμοιο πέλας μίγα θηλυτέρησιν
ιδρύσας, μυθεῖτο πιφαισκόμενος τὰ ἔκυστα·

‘Κλυτε, φίλοι· τρεῖς γάρ μοι ἀνιάζοντι θεῶν,
στέρφεσιν αἰγείοις ἐξωσμέναι ἐξ ὑπάτοις
αὐχένος ἰμφί τε νῶτα καὶ ἰξύας. ἤντε κοῦραι,
ἔσαν ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς μάλ’ ἐπισχεδόν· ἂν δ’ ἐκά-
λυψαν

1350

πέπλον ἐρυσάμεναι κούφῃ χερὶ, καὶ μ’ ἐκέλοντο
αὐτόν τ’ ἐγρεσθαι, ἵνὰ θ’ ὑμέας ὄρσαι ἰόντα·
μητέρι δὲ σφετέρῃ μενσεικέα τίσαι ἄμοιβήν
ὧν ἔκαμεν δηρὸν κατὰ νηδύος ἄμμε φέρουσα
ὅππότε κεν λύσῃσιν εὐτροχόν· Ἀμφιτρίτῃ
ἄρμα Ποσειδάωνος. ἐγὼ δ’ οὐ πάγχυ νοῆσαι
τῆσδε θεοπροπίης ἰσχω πέρι. φάν γε μὲν εἶναι
ἡρῶσσαι, Λιβύης τιμήοροι ἠδὲ θύγατρες·
καὶ δ’ ὁπόσ’ αὐτοὶ πρόσθεν ἐπὶ χθονὸς ἠδ’ ὅσ’ ἐφ’
ὕγρην

ἔτλημιν, τὰ ἕκαστα διίδμεναι εὐχετόωντο.
οὐδ’ ἔτι τάσδ’ ἵνὰ χῶρον ἐσέδρακον, ἀλλὰ τις
ἰχλὺς

1360

ἠὲ νέφος μεσσηγὺ φαινομένας ἐκάλυψεν.
Ὡς ἔφαθ’· οἱ δ’ ἄρα πάντες ἐθάμβεον εἰσαΐοντες.
ἐνθα τὸ μήκιστον τεράων Μινύησιν ἐτύχθη.
ἐξ αἰλὸς ἠπειρόνδε πελώριος ἐκθορεν ἵππος,
ἰμφιλαφής, χρυσέῃσι μετήορος αὐχένα χαίταις·
ρίμφα δὲ σεισάμενος γυῖων ἀπο νήχυτον ἄλμην
ᾠρτο θέειν, πνοιῇ ἱκελος πόδας. αἶψα δὲ Πηλεὺς
γῆθῆσας ἐτάροισιν ὁμηγερέεσσι μετηύδα·

‘Ἄρματα μὲν δή φημι Ποσειδίῳ εἰσάγειν
ἤδη νῦν ἰλόχοιο φίλης ὑπὸ χερσὶ λελύσθαι·
μητέρα δ’ οὐκ ἄλλην προτιόσσομαι, ἥ περ αὐτὴν
νῆα πέλειν· ἥ γὰρ κατὰ νηδύος ἄμμε φέρουσα
νωλεμὲν ἰργαλέοισιν ὀϊζύνει καμάτοισιν.
ἀλλὰ μιν ἰστεμφεῖ τε βίῃ καὶ ἡτειρέσιν ὤμοις

1370

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

"Listen, friends; as I lay in my grief, three goddesses girded with goat-skins from the neck downwards round the back and waist, like mailmen, stood over my head high at hand; and they uncovered me, drawing my cloak away with light hand, and they bade me rise up myself and go and rouse you, and pay to our mother a bounteous recompense for all her travail when she bare us so long in her womb, when Amphitrite shall have loosed Poseidon's swift-wheeled car. But I cannot fully understand concerning this divine message. They said indeed that they were heroines, Libya's warders and daughters; and all the toils that we endured aforetime by land and sea, all these they declared that they knew full well. Then I saw them no more in their place, but a mist or cloud came between and hid them from my sight."

Thus he spake, and all marvelled as they heard. Then was wrought for the Minyae the strangest of portents. From the sea to the land leapt forth a monstrous horse, of vast size, with golden mane tossing round his neck; and quickly from his limbs he shook off abundant spray and started on his course, with feet like the wind. And at once Peleus rejoiced and spake among the throng of his comrades:

"I deem that Poseidon's car has even now been loosed by the hands of his dear wife, and I divine that our mother is none else than our ship herself; for surely she bare us in her womb and groans unceasingly with grievous travail. But with unshaken strength and untiring shoulders will we

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

lift her up and bear her within this country of sandy wastes, where yon swift-footed steed has sped before. For he will not plunge beneath the earth; and his hoof-prints, I ween, will point us to some bay above the sea."

Thus he spake, and the fit counsel pleased all. This is the tale the Muses told; and I sing obedient to the Pierides, and this report have I heard most truly; that ye, O mightiest far of the sons of kingly, by your might and your valour over the desert sands of Libya raised high aloft on your shoulders the ship and all that ye brought therein, and bare her twelve days and nights alike. Yet who could tell the pain and grief which they endured in that toil? Surely they were of the blood of the immortals, such a task did they take on them, constrained by necessity. How forward and how far they bore her gladdly to the waters of the Tritonian lake! How they strode in and set her down from their stalwart shoulders!

Then, like raging hounds, they rushed to search for a spring; for besides their suffering and anguish, a parching thirst lay upon them, and not in vain did they wander; but they came to the sacred plain where Ladon, the serpent of the land, till yesterday kept watch over the golden apples in the garden of Atlas; and all around the nymphs, the Hesperides, were busied, chanting their lovely song. But at that time, stricken by Hercules, he lay fallen by the trunk of the apple-tree; only the tip of his tail was still writhing; but from his head down his dark spine he lay lifeless; and where the arrows had left in his blood the bitter gall of the Lernaean hydra, fleshes withered and died over the festering wounds. And close at hand the Hesperides, their white arms

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

hung over their golden heads, lamented shrilly ; and the heroes drew near suddenly ; but the maidens, at their quick approach, at once became dust and earth where they stood. Orpheus marked the divine portent, and for his comrades addressed them in prayer : " O divine ones, fair and kind, be gracious, O queens, whether ye be numbered among the heavenly goddesses, or those beneath the earth, or be called the Solitary nymphs ; come, O nymphs, sacred race of Oceanus, appear manifest to our longing eyes and show us some spring of water from the rock or some sacred flow gushing from the earth, goddesses, wherewith we may quench the thirst that burns us unceasingly. And if ever again we return in our voyaging to the Achaean land, then to you among the first of goddesses with willing hearts will we bring countless gifts, libations and banquets."

So he spake, beseeching them with plaintive voice ; and they from their station near pitied their pain ; and lo ! first of all they caused grass to spring from the earth ; and above the grass rose up tall shoots ; and then flourishing saplings grew standing upright far above the earth. Hesperie became a poplar and Eretheis an elm, and Aegle a willow's sacred trunk. And forth from these trees their forms looked out, as clear as they were before, a marvel exceeding great, and Aegle spake with gentle words answering their longing looks :

" Surely there has come hither a mighty succour to your toils, that most accursed man, who robbed our guardian serpent of life and plucked the golden apples of the goddesses and is gone ; and has left bitter grief for us. For yesterday came a man most

καὶ δέμας· ὅσσε δέ οἱ βλοσυρῷ ὑπέλαμπε μετώπῳ
 νηλῆς· ἄμφι δὲ δέρμα πελωρίου ἔστο λέντος
 ὤμόν, ἀδέψητον· στιβαρὸν δ' ἔχεν ὄξον ἐλαίης
 τόξα τε, τοῖσι πέλωρ τόδ' ἀπέφθισεν ἰοβολήσας. 1440
 ἤλυθε δ' οὖν καὶ κείνος, ἅτε χθόνα πεζὸς ὀδεύων,
 δέψῃ καρχαλέος· παίφασσε δὲ τόνδ' ἀνὰ χῶρον,
 ὕδωρ ἐξερέων, τὸ μὲν οὐ ποθι μέλλεν ιδέσθαι.
 ἦδε δέ τις πέτρη Τριτωνίδος ἐγγύθι λίμνης·
 τὴν δγ' ἐπιφρασθεῖς, ἥ καὶ θεοῦ ἐννεσίησιν,
 λάξ ποδὶ τύψεν ἔνερθε· τὸ δ' ἀθρόον ἐβλυσεν ὕδωρ.
 αὐτὰρ δγ' ἄμφω χεῖρε πέδῳ καὶ στέρνον ἐρέσας
 ῥωγάδος ἐκ πέτρης πλεν ἄσπετον, ὄφρα βαθεῖαν
 νηδύν, φορβάδι ἴσος ἐπιπροπεσών, ἐκορέσθη·

ὣς φάτο· τοὶ δ' ἄσπαστὸν ἴνα σφίσι πέφραδεν

Αἴγλη

1450

πίδακα, τῇ θεὸν αἶψα κεχαρμένοι, ὄφρ' ἐπέκυσαν.
 ὥς δ' ὁπότε στευνὴν περὶ χηραμὸν εἰλίσσονται
 γειομόροι μύρμηκες ὁμιλαδόν, ἥ ὅτε μυῖαι
 ἄμφ' ὀλίγην μέλιτος γλυκεροῦ λίβα πεπτηνῖαι
 ἄπλητον μεμῖασιν ἐπήτριμοι· ὥς τότε' ἀολλεῖς
 πετραίῃ Μινύαι περὶ πίδακι δινεύεσκον.

καὶ πού τις διεροῖς ἐπὶ χεῖλεσιν εἶπεν ἰανθείς·

ὦ πόποι, ἥ καὶ νόσφιν ἐὼν ἐσάωσεν ἐταῖρους
 Ἡρακλῆς δέψῃ κεκμηότας. ἀλλί μιν εἴ πως
 δίοιμεν στείχοντα δι' ἠπείροιο κιόντες·

1460

Ἡ, καὶ ἀμειβομένων, οἷτ' ἄρμενοι ἐς τόδε ἔργον,
 ἔκριθεν ἄλλυδις ἄλλος ἐπαίξας ἐρεεῖνεν.
 ἶχνια γὰρ νυχίοισιν ἐπηλίνδητ' ἀνέμοισιν

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

fell in wanton violence, most grim in form ; and his eyes flashed beneath his scowling brow ; a ruthless wretch ; and he was clad in the skin of a monstrous lion of raw hide, untanned ; and he bare a sturdy bow of olive, and a bow, wherewith he shot and killed this monster here. So he too came, as one traversing the land on foot, parched with thirst ; and he rushed wildly through this spot, searching for water, but nowhere was he like to see it. Now here stood a rock near the Tritonian lake ; and of his own device, or by the prompting of some god, he smote it below with his foot ; and the water gushed out in full flow. And he, leaning both his hands and chest upon the ground, drank a huge draught from the rifted rock, until, stooping like a beast of the field, he had satisfied his mighty maw."

Thus she spake ; and they gladly with joyful steps ran to the spot where Aegle had pointed out to them the spring, until they reached it. And as when earth-burrowing ants gather in swarms round a narrow cleft, or when flies lighting upon a tiny drop of sweet honey cluster round with insatiate eagerness ; so at that time, huddled together, the Minyae thronged about the spring from the rock. And thus with wet lips one cried to another in his delight :

"Strange ! In very truth Heracles, though far away, has saved his comrades, forlorn with thirst. Would that we might find him on his way as we pass through the mainland !"

So they spake, and those who were ready for this work answered, and they separated this way and that, each starting to search. For by the night winds the footsteps had been effaced where the sand

THE ARGONAUTICA, BOOK IV

was stirred. The two sons of Boreas started up, trusting in their wings; and Euphemus, relying on his swift feet, and Lynceus to cast far his piercing eyes; and with them darted off Canthus, the fifth. He was urged on by the doom of the gods and his own courage, that he might learn for certain from Heracles where he had left Polyphemus, son of Eilatus; for he was minded to question him on every point concerning his comrade. But that hero had founded a glorious city among the Mysians, and, yearning for his home-return, had passed far over the mainland in search of Argo; and in time he reached the land of the Chalybes, who dwell near the sea; there it was that his fate subdued him. And to him a monument stands under a tall poplar, just facing the sea. But that day Lynceus thought he saw Heracles all alone, far off, over measureless land, as a man at the month's beginning sees, or thinks he sees, the moon through a bank of cloud. And he returned and told his comrades that no other searcher would find Heracles on his way, and they also came back, and swift-footed Euphemus and the twin sons of Thracian Boreas, after a vain toil.

But thee, Canthus, the fates of death seized in Libya. On pasturing flocks didst thou light; and there followed a shepherd who, in defence of his own sheep, while thou wert leading them off¹ to thy comrades in their need, slew thee by the cast of a stone; for he was no weakling, Capliaurus, the grandson of Lycoreian Phoebus and the chaste maiden Acacallis, whom once Minos drove from home

¹ This seems to be the only possible translation, but the optative is quite anomalous. We should expect *ἀγόμεναι*.

ἐς Λιβύην ἀπένασσε θεοῦ βαρὺ κῦμα φέρουσαν,
θυγατέρα σφετέρην· ἥ δ' ἀγλαὸν νῆα Φοῖβη
τίκτεν, θν' Ἀμφίθεμιν Γαράμαντί τε κικλή-
σκουσιν.

Ἀμφίθεμις δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα μίγῃ Τριτωνίδι νύμφῃ·
ἥ δ' ἄρα οἱ Νασίμωννα τέκεν κρατερόν τε Κάφαν-
ρον,

ὅς τότε Κάνθον ἔπεφνεν ἐπὶ ῥήνεσσιν ἰοῖσιν.
οὐδ' ὄγ' ἰριστήων χαλεπὰς ἠλεύατο χεῖρας,
ὥς μάθον οἷον ἔρεξε. νέκυν δ' ἀνάειραν ὀπίσσω
πενθόμενοι Μινύαι, γαίῃ δ' ἐνὶ ταρχύσαντο
μυρόμενοι· τὰ δὲ μῆλα μετὰ σφέας οἷγ' ἐκόμισσαν.

1500

Ἔνθα καὶ Ἀμπυκίδην αὐτῇ ἐνὶ ἡματι Μόψον
νηλεῆς ἔλε πότμος· ἀδευκέα δ' οὐ φύγεν αἴσαν
μαντοσύναις· οὐ γάρ τις ὑποτροπή θανάτιο.
κεῖτο δ' ἐπὶ ψαμάθοισι μεσημβρινὸν ἡμαρ ἀλύ-
σκων

δεινὸς ὄφης, νωθῆς μὲν ἐκὼν ἀέκοντα χαλέψαι·
οὐδ' ἂν ὑποτρέσαντος ἐνωπαδὶς αἴξειεν.
ἀλλὰ μὲν ὧ τὰ πρῶτα μελάγχχιμον ἰὸν ἐνείῃ
ζώντων, ὅσα γαῖα φερέσβιος ἔμπνοα βόσκει,
οὐδ' ὁπόσον πήχυιον ἐς Ἴλιδα γίγνεται οἶμος,
οὐδ' εἰ Παιήων, εἰ μοι θέμις ἡμφαδὸν εἰπεῖν,
φαρμίσσοι, ὅτε μῦνον ἐνιχρίμψῃσιν ὁδοῦσιν.
εὖτε γὰρ ἰσόθεος Λιβύην ὑπερέπτατο Περσεὺς
Ἰὺρυμέδων—καὶ γὰρ τὸ κάλεσκέ μιν οὔνομα
μήτηρ—

1510

Γοργόνος ἀρτίτομον κεφαλὴν βασιλῆι κομίζων,
ὅσσαι κυανέου στάγες αἵματος οὐδας ἔκοντο,
αἱ πᾶσαι κείνων ὀφίων γένος ἐβλάστησαν.
τῇ δ' ἄκρην ἐπ' ἄκανθαν ἐνεστηρίζατο Μόψος
λαῖον ἐπιπροφέρων ταρσὸν ποδός· αὐτὰρ ὁ μέσσην

κερκίδα καὶ μυῶνα, πέριξ ὀδύνῃσιν ἐλιχθεῖς,
 σάρκα δακῶν ἐχύραξεν. ἀτὰρ Μῆδεia καὶ ἄλλαι
 ἔτρεσαν ἀμφίπολοι· ὁ δὲ φοῖνιον ἔλκος ἄφασσεν
 θαρσαλέως, ἔνεκ' οὐ μιν ὑπέρβιον ἄλγος ἔτειρεν.
 σχέτλιος· ἦ τέ οἱ ἤδη ὑπὸ χροῦ δύετο κῶμα
 λυσιμελές, πολλή δὲ κατ' ὀφθαλμῶν χέετ' ἀχλὺς.
 αὐτίκα δὲ κλίνας δαπέδῳ βεβαρηότα γυνῖα
 ψύχετ' ἰμμηχανῇ· ἔταροι δὲ μιν ἀμφαγέροντο
 ἥρως τ' Αἰσονίδης, ἰδινῇ περιθαμβέες ἄτη.
 οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδ' ἐπὶ τυτθὸν ἀποφθίμενός περ ἔμελλεν
 κεῖσθαι ὑπ' ἡελίῳ. πύθεσκε γὰρ ἐνδοθι σάρκας
 ἰὸς ἄφαρ, μυδόωσα δ' ἀπὸ χροὸς ἔρρεε λάχνη.
 αἶψα δὲ χαλκείῃσι βαθὺν τάφον ἐξελάχαινον
 ἔσσυμένως μακέλησιν· ἐμοιρήσαντο δὲ χαίτας
 αὐτοὶ ὁμῶς κοῦραί τε, νέκυν ἐλεεινὰ παθόντα
 μυρόμενοι· τρὶς δ' ἀμφὶ σὺν ἔντεσι δινηθέντες
 εὐ κτερέων ἴσχοντα, χυτὴν ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἔθεντο.

1520

1530

Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐπὶ νηὸς ἔβαν, πρὶςσόντος ἀήτεω
 ἄμ πέλαγος νοτίοιο, πόρους τ' ὑπετεκμαίροντο
 λίμνης ἐκπρομολεῖν Τριτωνίδος, οὐτίνα μῆτιν
 δὴν ἔχον, ἀφραδέως δὲ πανημέριοι φορέοντο.
 ὥς δὲ δραίκων σκολιὴν εἰλεγμένος ἔρχεται οἶμον,
 εὐτέ μιν ὀξύτατον θάλλπει σέλας ἡελίοιο·
 ῥοίζῳ δ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα κάρη στρέφει, ἐν δὲ οἱ ὕσσε
 σπινθαυρύγεσσι πυρὸς ἐναλίγκια μαιμώνοντι
 λίμπεται, ὄφρα μυχόνδε διὰ ῥωχμοῖο δύηται·
 ὥς Ἀργῶ λίμνης στόμα ναύπορον ἐξερέουσα
 ἀμφεπύλει δηναῖον ἐπὶ χρόνον. αὐτίκα δ' Ὀρφεὺς
 κέκλετ' Ἀπόλλωνος τρίποδα μέγαν ἔκτοθι νηὸς
 δαίμοσιν ἐγγενέταις νοστω ἐπι μείλια θέσθαι.
 καὶ τοὶ μὲν Φοῖβου κτέρας ἰδρυνον ἐν χθονὶ βάντες·

1540

1550

τοῖσιν δ' αἰζήφ' ἐναλίγκιος ἀντεβόλησεν
 Τρίτων εὐρυβίης, γαίης δ' ἀνὰ βῶλον αἰέρας
 ξεῖνι' ἱριστήεσσι πρόσχετο, φώνησέν τε·

Ἄεχθε, φίλοι· ἐπεὶ οὐ περιώσιον ἐγγυαλῆξαι
 ἐνθάδε νῦν πῦρ' ἐμοὶ ξεινήιον ἀντομένοισιν.
 εἰ δέ τι τῆσδε πόρους μαίεσθ' ἕλός, οἷά τε πολλὰ
 ἄνθρωποι χατέουσιν ἐν ἁλλοδαπῇ περόντες,
 ἐξερέω. δὴ γάρ με πατήρ ἐπίστορα πόντου
 θῆκε Ποσειδάων τοῦδ' ἔμμεναι. αὐτὰρ ἰνύσσω
 παρραλῆς, εἰ δὴ τιν' ἀκούετε νόσφιν ἔοντες
 Εὐρύπυλον Λιβύη θηροτρόφῳ ἐγγεγαῶτα·

1560

Ὡς ἡῦδα· πρόφρων δ' ὑπερέσχεθε βῶλακι
 χεῖρας

Εὐφημος, καὶ τοῖα παραβλήδην προσέειπεν
 Ἄπιδα¹ καὶ πέλαγος Μινώιον εἰ νῦν πον, ἦρως,
 ἐξεδίης, νημερτές ἀνειρομένοισιν ἔνισπε.
 δεῦρ' γὰρ οὐκ ἐθέλοντες ἰκύνομεν, ἀλλὰ βαρεῖαις
 χρίμψαντες γαίης ἐπὶ πείρασι τῆσδε θυέλλης
 νῆα μεταχρονίην ἐκομίσσαμεν ἐς τύδε λίμνης
 χεῦμα δι' ἡπείρου βεβαρημένοι· οὐδέ τι ἴδμεν,
 πῇ πλὺτος ἐξαιέχει Πελοπηίδα γαῖαν ἰκέσθαι·

1570

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· ὁ δὲ χεῖρα τανύσσατο, δείξε δ'
 ἄπαθεν

φρονήσας πόντον τε καὶ ἰγχιβαθὲς στόμα λίμνης·
 Ἄκνη μὲν πόντοιο διήλυσσι, ἔνθα μάλιστα
 βένθος ἀκίνητον μελανεῖ· ἐκάτερθε δὲ λευκαὶ
 ῥηγμῖνες φμίσσουσι διανγέες· ἡ δὲ μεσηγὺν
 ῥηγμίνων στενὴ τέλλεται ὁδὸς ἐκτὸς ἐλίσσαι.
 κείνο δ' ὑπὲριον θείην Πελοπηίδα γαῖαν
 εἰσανέχει πέλαγος Κρήτης ὑπερ' ἄλλ' ἐπὶ χειρὸς

¹ Ἀτίδα a variant in scholia: Ἀτίδα MSS.

δεξιτερῆς, λίμνηθεν ὅτ' εἰς ἄλός οἶδμα βάλητε,
 τύφρ' αὐτὴν παρὰ χέρσον ἐργαμένοι ἰθύεσθε,
 ἔστ' ἂν ἄνω τεινῇσι περιρρήδην δ' ἐτέρωσε
 κλινομένης χέρσοιο, τότε πλόος ὕμιν ἀπήμων
 ἀγκῶνος τέτατ' ἰθύς ἀπὸ προύχοντος ἰούσιν.
 ἰλλ' ἴτε γηθόσυνοι, καμάτοιο δὲ μήτις ἀνὴρ
 γιγνέσθω, νεότητι κεκασμένα γυνῖα μογῆσαι.'

1580

Ἴσκεν ἐνφρονέων· οἱ δ' αἰψ' ἐπὶ νηὸς ἔβησαν
 λίμνης ἐκπρομολεῖν λεληθμένοι εἰρεσίησιν.
 καὶ δὴ ἐπιπρονέοντο μεμαότες· αὐτὰρ ὁ τείως
 Τρίτων ἀνθέμενος τρίποδα μέγαν, εἷσατο λίμνην
 εἰσβαίνειν· μετὰ δ' οὔτις ἐσέδρακεν, οἷον ἄφαντος
 αὐτῷ σὺν τρίποδι σχεδὸν ἔπλετο. τοῖσι δ' ἰάνθη
 θυμός, ὃ δὴ μακάρων τις ἐναΐσιμος ἀντεβόλησεν.
 καὶ μὶ οἱ Λίσονίδην μῆλων ὃ τι φέρτατον ἄλλων
 ἦνωγον ῥέξαι καὶ ἐπευφημῆσαι ἐλόντα.

1590

αἰψα δ' ὄγ' ἐσσυμένως ἐκρίνατο, καὶ μιν αἶρας
 σφάξε κατὰ πρύμνης, ἐπὶ δ' ἔννεπεν εὐχολῆσιν·

Ἐδαιμον, ὅτις λίμνης ἐπὶ πείρασι τῆσδ' ἐφαάνθης,
 εἴτε σέγε Τρίτων', ἄλιον τέρας, εἴτε σε Φύρκυν,
 ἢ Νηρήα θύγατρες ἐπικλείουσ' αἰλοσύδναι,
 ἴλαθι, καὶ νόστοιο τέλος θυμηδὲς ὄπαζε.'

1600

Ἦ ῥ', ἅμα δ' εὐχολῆσιν ἐς ὕδατα λαιμοτομήσας
 ἦκε κατὰ πρύμνης· ὃ δὲ βένθεος ἐξεφαάνθη
 τοῖος ἑὼν, οἷος περ ἐτίτυμος ἦεν ἰδέσθαι.
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀνὴρ θοὸν ἵππον ἐπ' εὐρέα κύκλον ἀγκῶνος
 στέλλῃ, ὀρεζάμενος λασίης εὐπειθέα χαλῆς,
 εἶθαρ ἐπιτροχάων, ὃ δ' ἐπ' αὐχένι γαῦρος ἱερθεῖς
 ἴσπεται, ἀργινόεντα δ' ἐνὶ στομάτεσσι χαλινὰ

ἄμφις ὀδακτάζοντι παραβλήδην κροτέονται
 ὥς ὃγ' ἐπισχόμενος γλαφυρῆς ὀλκήιον Ἀργοῦς
 ἦγ' ἄλαδε προτέρωσε· δέμας δέ οἱ ἐξ ὑπάτοιο
 κρίατος, ἄμφι τε νῶτα καὶ ἰξύας ἔστ' ἐπὶ νηδὺν
 ἀντικρὺ μακάρεσσι φυὴν ἔκπαγλον ἔικτο·
 αὐτὰρ ὑπαὶ λαγόνων δέκραιρί οἱ ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα
 κήτεος ὀλκαίη μηκύνετο· κόπτε δ' ἰκάνθαις
 ἄκρον ὕδωρ, αἶτε σκολιοῖς ἐπινειόθι κέντροις
 μήνης ὥς κερίεσσιν εἰσιδόμεναι διχόωντο.
 τόφρα δ' ἄγεν, τείως μιν ἐπιπροέηκε θαλάσση
 νισσομένην· δῦ δ' αἶψα μέγαν βυθὸν οἱ δ' ὁμάδη-
 σαν

1610

ἦρωες, τέρας αἰνὸν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἰδόντες.
 ἔνθα μὲν Ἀργῶός τε λιμὴν καὶ σήματα νηὸς
 ἠδὲ Ποσειδάωνος ἰδὲ Τρίτωνος ἔασιν
 βωμό· ἐπεὶ κεῖν' ἡμαρ ἐπέσχεθον. αὐτὰρ ἐς ἡῶ
 λαΐφεισι πεπταμένοις αὐτὴν ἐπὶ δεξιῇ ἔχοντες
 γαῖαν ἐρημαίην, πνοιῇ ζεφύροιο θέεσκον.
 ἦρι δ' ἐπειτ' ἀγκῶνά θ' ὁμοῦ μυχάτην τε θάλασσαν
 κεκλιμένην ἀγκῶνος ὑπερ προύχοντος ἴδοντο.
 αὐτίκα δὲ ζέφυρος μὲν ἐλώφειν, ἤλυθε δ' αὔρη
 ἀργεστῆος ὕψους· κεχάροντο δὲ θυμὸν ἰωῇ.
 ἦμος δ' ἠέλιος μὲν ἔδν, ἠνὰ δ' ἤλυθεν ἰστὴρ
 αὐλῖος, ὅστ' ἀνέπαισεν οἰζυροῦς ἀροτῆρας.
 δὴ τότε· ἐπειτ' ἀνέμοιο κελαινῇ νυκτὶ λιπόντος
 ἰστία λυσάμενοι περιμήκεά τε κλίναντες
 ἰστόν, ἐυξέστησιν ἐπερρώοντ' ἐλάτῃσιν
 παννύχιοι καὶ ἐπ' ἡμαρ, ἐπ' ἡματι δ' αὖτις ἰοῦσαν
 νύχθ' ἑτέρην. ὑπέδεκτο δ' ὑποπροθι παιπαλδέσσα
 Κύρπαθος· ἔνθεν δ' οἷγε περαιώσεσθαι ἔμελλον
 Κρήτην, ἣτ' ἄλλων ὑπερέπλετο εἰν αἰὶ νήσων.

1620

1630

Τοὺς δὲ Τάλως χάλκειος, ἀπὸ στιβαροῦ σκοπέ-
λοιο

ῥηγνύμενος πέτρας, εἶργε χθονὶ πείσματ' ἀνίψαι,
Δικταίην ὄρμοιο κατερχομένους ἐπιωγῆν. 1640

τὸν μὲν χαλκείης μελιηγενέων ἀνθρώπων
ρίξης λοιπὸν ἔντα μετ' ἀνδράσιν ἡμιθέοισιν
Ἐνρώπῃ Κρονίδης νήσου πόρεν ἔμμεναι οὖρον,
τρεῖς περὶ χαλκείοις Κρήτην ποσὶ δινεύοντα.
ἀλλ' ἦτοι τὸ μὲν ἄλλο δέμας καὶ γυνὴ τέτυκτο
χάλκεος ἡδ' ἄρρηκτος· ὑπαὶ δὲ οἱ ἔσκε τένοντος
σύρυγξ αἱματόεσσα κατὰ σφυρόν· αὐτὰρ ὁ τήνγε
λεπτὸς ὑμῆν, ζωῆς, ἔχε, πείρατα καὶ θανάτοιο.
οἱ δέ, δύν μῖλα περ δεδμημένοι, αἰψ' ἀπὸ χέρσου
νῆα περιδδείσαντες ἀνακρούεσκον ἑρετμοῖς. 1650
καὶ νύ κ' ἐπισμυγερώς Κρήτης ἐκὰς ἤερθσαν,
ἰμφοτέρων δίψῃ τε καὶ ἄλγεσι μοχθίζοντες,
εἰ μὴ σφιν Μῆδεα λιαζομένοις ἀγόρευσεν·

Ἐκέλυτέ μεν. μούνη γὰρ οἶομαι ὕμμι δαμύσ-
σειν

ἄνδρα τόν, ὅστις ὁδ' ἐστί, καὶ εἰ παγχάλκεον ἴσχει
ὄν δέμας, ὅπποτε μὴ οἱ ἐπ' ἀκάματος πέλοι αἰών.
ἀλλ' ἔχειτ' αὐτοῦ νῆα θελήμονες ἐκτὸς ἐρωῆς
πετράων, εἴως κεν ἐμοὶ εἴξειε δαμῆναι.

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη· καὶ τοὶ μὲν ὑπὲκ βελέων ἐρύσαντο
νῆ' ἐπ' ἑρετμοῖσιν, δεδοκημένοι ἦντινα ῥέξει 1660
μῆτιν ἀνώϊστος· ἡ δὲ πτύχα πορφυρέοιο
προσχομένη πέπλοιο παρειάων ἐκάτερθεν
βῆσατ' ἐπ' ἱκρίοφιν· χειρὸς δὲ ἑ χειρὶ μεμαρπῶς
Αἰσουλίδης ἐκομίζε διὰ κληίδας ἰοῦσαν.
ἔνθα δ' ἰοιδῆσιν μειλίσσετο, μέλπε δὲ Κῆρας
θυμοβόρους, Ἀίδαο θοὰς κύνας, αἱ περὶ πᾶσαν

ἡέρα δινεύουσαι ἐπὶ ζωοῖσιν ἄγονται.
 τὰς γονναζομένη τρὶς μὲν παρεκέκλετ' αἰοδαῖς,
 τρὶς δὲ λιταῖς· θεμένη δὲ κακὸν νόον, ἐχθοδοποῖσιν
 ὄμμασι χαλκείοιο Τάλω ἐμέγηρεν ὀπωπᾶς·
 λευγαλίων δ' ἐπὶ οἱ πρῖεν χόλον, ἐκ δ' αἰδήλα
 δείκηλα προάλλεν, ἐπιζήφελον κοτέουσα.

1670

Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἡ μέγα δὴ μοι ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θάμβος ἄηται,
 εἰ δὴ μὴ νοῦσοισι τυπῇσί τε λυγρὸς ὀλεθρὸς
 ἀντιάει, καὶ δὴ τις ἀπόπροθεν ἄμμε χαλέπτει.
 ὥς ὄγε χάλκειός περ ἔων ὑπόειξε δαμῆναι
 Μηδείης βρίμη πολυφαρμάκου. ἂν δε βαρείας
 ὀχλίζων λάιγγας, ἐρυκέμεν ὄρμον ἰκέσθαι,
 πετραίῳ στόνυχι χρίμψε σφυρόν· ἐκ δὲ οἱ ἰχώρ
 τηκομένη ἱκελος μόλιβῳ ῥέεν· οὐδ' ἔτι δηρὸν
 εἰστήκει προβλήτης ἐπεμβεβαὼς σκοπέλοιο.
 ἀλλ' ὥς τις τ' ἐν ὄρεσσι πελωρίῃ ὑψύθει πεύκη,
 τήντε θοοῖς πελέκεσσιν ἔθ' ἡμιπλήγα λιπόντες
 ὑλοτόμοι δρυμοῖο κατήλυθον· ἡ δ' ὑπὸ νυκτὶ
 ῥιπῇσιν μὲν πρῶτα τινύσσεται, ὕστερον αὔτε
 πρυμνόθεν ἐξαγείσα κατήριπεν ὥς ὄγε ποσσὶν
 ἰκαμάτοις τέλως μὲν ἐπισταδὸν ἤωρεῖτο,
 ὕστερον αὐτ' ἡμενηνὸς ἀπείρονι κάππεσε δούπῳ.
 κεῖνο μὲν οὖν Κρήτῃ ἐνὶ δὴ κνέφας ἡυλίζοντο
 ἤρωες· μετὰ δ' οἷγε νέον φαέθουσιν ἐς ἡῶ
 ἱρὸν Ἀθηναίης Μινωίδος ἰδρύσαντο,
 ὕδωρ τ' εἰσαφύσαντο καὶ εἰσέβαν, ὥς κεν ἐρετμοῖς
 παμπρώτιστα βάλοιεν ὑπὲρ Σαλμωνίδος ἄκρης.

1680

1690

Λύττικα δὲ Κρηταῖον ὑπὲρ μέγα λαῖτμα θεόντας
 νύξ ἐφόβει, τήνπερ τε κατουλάδα κικλήσκουσιν·
 νύκτ' ὅλοῦν οὐκ ἄστρα δίισχανεν, οὐκ ἀμαρυγαὶ
 μήνης· οὐρανόθεν δὲ μέλαν χάος, ἢ τις ἄλλη

ᾠρώρει σκοτίνι μυχάτων ἄνιούσα βερέθρων.
αὐτοὶ δ', εἴτ' Ἀΐδην, εἴθ' ὕδασιν ἐμφορέοντο,
ἡεΐδεν οὐδ' ὅσον· ἐπέτρεψαν δὲ θαλάσση
νόστον, ἀμνηχανέοντες, ὅπῃ φέροι. αὐτὰρ Ἰήσων
χεΐρας ἀνασχόμενος μεγάλην ὀπί Φοῖβον αὐτεῖ,
ρύσασθαι καλέων· κατὰ δ' ἔρρεεν ἀσχαλόωντι
δαίκρυα· πολλὰ δὲ Πυθοῖ ὑπέσχετο, πολλὰ δ'
Ἀμύκλαις,

1700

πολλὰ δ' ἐς Ὀρτυγίην ἀπερείσια δῶρα κομίσσειν.
Ληγοῖδην, τύνη δὲ κατ' οὐρανοῦ ἴκεο πέτρας
ρίμφα Μελαντίους ἀριήκοος, αἷτ' ἐνὶ πόντῃ
ἦνται· δοιῶν δὲ μιῆς ἐφύπερθεν ὁρούσας,
δεξιτερῇ χρύσειον ἀνέσχεθες ὑψόθι τόξον·
μυρμαρέην δ' ἀπέλαμψε βιὸς περὶ πάντοθεν αἶγλην. 1710
τοῖσι δέ τις Σποράδων βαιὴ ἀπὸ τόφρ' ἐφαίνθη
νῆσος ἰδεῖν, ὀλίγης Ἰππουρίδος ἀντία νήσου,
ἐνθ' εὐνάς ἐβάλλοντο καὶ ἔσχεθον· αὐτίκα δ' ἠὼς
φέγγεν ἀνερχομένη· τοὶ δ' ἄγλαδν Ἀπόλλωνι
ἄλσει ἐνὶ σκιερῷ τέμενος σκιοέντά τε βωμόν
ποίηον, Λύγλητὴν μὲν εὐσκόπου εἵνεκεν αἶγλης
Φοῖβον κεκλόμενοι· Ἀνάφην δὲ τε λισσάδα νήσου
Ἰσκον, ὃ δὴ Φοῖβός μιν ἀτυζομένοις ἀνέφηνεν.
ρέζον δ' ὅσσα περ ἄνδρες ἐρημαίῃ ἐνὶ ῥέξειν
ἰκτὴ ἐφοπλίσσειαν· ὃ δὴ σφείας ὀππότε δαλοῖς 1720
ὑδῶρ αἰθομένοισιν ἐπιλλείβοντας ἰδοῖτο
Μηδείης δμῶαὶ Φαιηκίδες, οὐκέτ' ἔπειτα
ἴσχειν ἐν στήθεσσι γέλω σθένον, οἷα θαμνείας
αἶεν ἐν Ἀλκινόοιο βοοκτασίας ὀρώσσαι.
τὰς δ' αἰσχροῖς ἥρωες ἐπεστοβέεσκον ἐπесσιν
χλεύη γηθόσυνοι· γλυκερὴ δ' ἀνεδαίετο τοῖσιν

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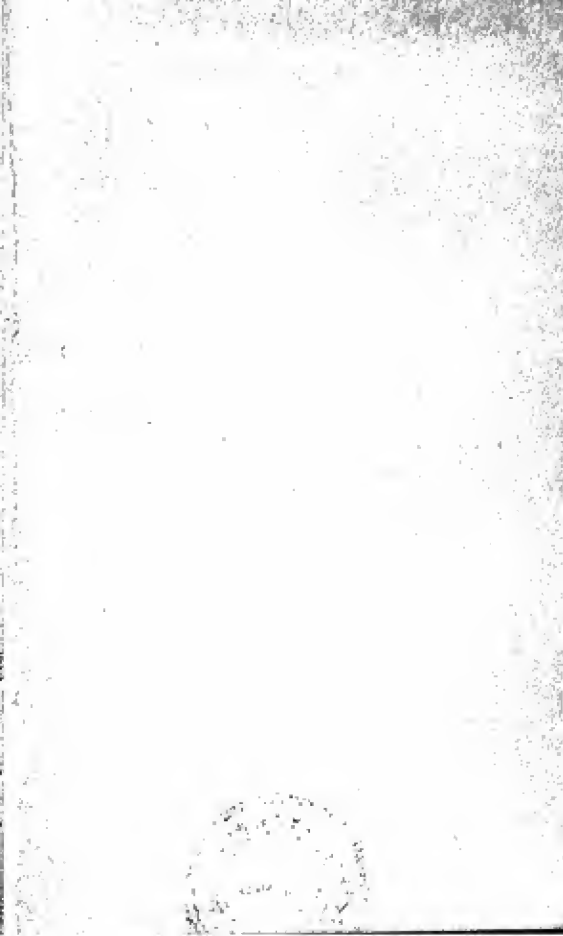
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